

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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## OPINION METER

This week's poll:

In light of President Obama's push for comprehensive immigration reform, do you support granting status to long-term foreign workers in the CNMI?

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Sandy Beach Homes gives the Chalan Kanoa Beach Park a facelift.

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Don't blame Beyonce for blowing the lights out at the Super Bowl.

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## Crunch time to help Fund

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
[haidee\\_eugenio@saipantribune.com](mailto:haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

**L**awmakers have a few days left to come up with a list of proposals to help prolong the NMI Retirement Fund's lifespan—as requested by trustee *ad litem* Joseph Razzano—for presentation to the court on Feb. 19.

» **US Congress-backed or \$80M short-term pension obligation bond**

As of yesterday, Senate Fund Committee chair Sen. Ray Yumul (IR-Saipan) said his suggested measures include seeking a U.S. Congress-backed pension obligation bond or an \$80-million short-term bond.

Yumul said the immediate goal is to prolong the pension agency's lifespan beyond March 2014.

"My idea is a United States Congress backing of the pension obligation bond, and that means going

**See CRUNCH on Page 4**

## New contract with PHI Pharmacy OK'd

» **About 400 Medicaid patients troop to pharmacy in first 4 days**

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
[moneth\\_deposa@saipantribune.com](mailto:moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

A new contract that will ensure Medicaid patients' continued access to pharmaceutical services on island was recently approved for PHI Pharmacy.

PHI Pharmacy vice president Bruce Cohen disclosed yesterday that the agreement was signed last week after the government made a partial payment on its outstanding obligations.

Due to the CNMI government's

**See CONTRACT on Page 4**

## A DAY'S VISIT

Japan's largest cruise ship, the 241-meter long M/S *Asuka II* or "The Flying Bird," as seen from Capital Hill, leaves the Port of Saipan at past 5pm yesterday after a day tour that helped boost the island's tourism. Commonwealth Ports Authority Port of Saipan manager MaryAnn Q. Lizama said the ship brought with it 502 passengers and over 400 officers and crew members, less than a year after its last voyage to Saipan in March 2012.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## 'Governor's Office fails federal security standards'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

Friday's incident at the governor's office wherein a man allegedly made "terroristic" threats against Gov. Benigno R. Fitial put to light a long-standing concern that the building does not meet U.S. Department of Homeland Security's security standards for state and territorial chief executive offices, press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday.

Demapan said that compared to other governor's offices, the one on Capital Hill has been "very lenient in terms of security measures."

With or without Friday's inci-

dent, which led to the arrest of the man who allegedly made the threat, the governor's office and the CNMI Office of Homeland Security have already been working with federal agencies to improve the building's security.

Marvin Seman, CNMI Office of Homeland Security acting special assistant, separately said that DHS' regular "critical infrastructure assessment" covers not only the governor's office but also the airport, seaport, hospital, corrections facility and schools, among other critical facilities, and comes up with recommendations on how to beef

**See SECURITY on Page 4**



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

The building that houses the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill remains under renovation as of yesterday. An incident on Friday wherein a man allegedly made "terroristic" threats against the governor highlight once again a longstanding concern that the building does not meet federal security standards for state and territorial chief executive offices.



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CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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# Local

## CNMI farmers to undergo 3-day cooperative training



CLARISSA V. DAVID

From left, Northern Marianas College - Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service's Pedro Deleon Guerrero and Michael M. Ogo, CNMI Department of Commerce acting secretary Ivan Blanco, Mark Rabauliman, agricultural consultant Isidoro T. Cabrera, and Saipan Sabalu Farmers Market president Ramon B. Camacho during yesterday's media briefing regarding the upcoming Agricultural Cooperative Development Training from Feb. 27 to March 1 at Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

CNMI farmers will be taught the ropes of organizing and sustaining their own cooperative with the help of a federally funded training at the end of this month, strengthening efforts to sustain crop and livestock production and food security in the community.

The Agricultural Cooperative Development Training will take place on Feb. 27 and 28, from 8am to 4pm, and on March 1, from 8am to 1pm, at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan.

Farmers from Tinian and Rota also will have the opportunity to undergo the free training, which is open to U.S. eligible farmers, through video teleconference.

The training is part of a \$1 million technical assistance grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Insular Affairs to the CNMI Department of Commerce, a portion of which (over \$45,000) was endowed to the Saipan Sabalu Farmers Market, Inc.

In a news briefing yesterday, organizers said the training primarily aims to provide farmers an in-depth look at the cooperative business model, from the overview of cooperatives to the steps in starting an actual cooperative.

The creation of a cooperative in the Commonwealth would address the issue of consistency in food supply to crop buyers, a problem that

has hounded the local agricultural community for three decades, according to Michael M. Ogo of the Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service.

Ogo said the cooperative would ensure that buyers are "not left out in the cold" since local agricultural producers are able to deliver their needed volume of products, preventing importation and keeping the money within the Northern Marianas.

The three-day training will be conducted by two experts from the California Center for Cooperative Development, a nonprofit organization that promotes and supports cooperatives of all kinds with start-up, management and other technical assistance.

Executive director E. Kim Coontz has over 20 years of experience working with cooperatives and has authored and co-authored numerous articles and publications. Assistant director Luis Sierra is an expert in initiating and developing small agricultural marketing organizations to carry out marketing strategies, including agricultural cooperatives, farmers' markets, and investor-owned businesses.

"Both consultants have extensive experience and will bring their case studies and success stories to the CNMI community so that we can use them as a model," said Ogo.

He said the two have been communicating with NMC-CREES for background in-

formation on the Commonwealth's circumstances and identify strengths and weaknesses, all in an effort to tailor the training based on the experience of the islands.

Farmer leaders said the training will be vital to the growth of the local agricultural industry and could motivate the younger generation to explore a trade that has been a part of the island culture for generations.

Agricultural consultant Isidoro T. Cabrera said the training would pave the way for another cooperative to be established in the Northern Marianas. A former director of the defunct Saipan Farmers Cooperative Association, Cabrera hinted that a cooperative can be instrumental in bringing back the glory days of agricultural producers in the CNMI.

SSFm president Ramon B. Camacho said a cooperative could also address the rising incidence of non-communicable diseases such as obesity and diabetes and crime rates as farming will promote consumption of natural and healthy food as well as give the youth something to occupy their time.

Organizers are targeting 100 participants from Saipan and 25 each from Tinian and Rota. Only limited slots are available so eligible farmers are encouraged to sign up by contacting Joaquin Deleon Guerrero (Saipan) at 234-5498 ext. 1707, Lawrence Duponcheel (Tinian) at 433-0639 or Alejandro Badilles (Rota) at 532-9513.



# Arizona Internet technology expert testifies for Weindl

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

An Internet technology expert from Arizona testified yesterday for former school principal Thomas Weindl, who is on trial in federal court for allegedly accessing child pornography websites using a Public School System-issued laptop.

Tami L. Loehrs, president of

a computer forensics company in Tucson, Arizona, explained, among other things, how the Internet works and the significance of the E-blaster reports that allegedly alerted authorities to Weindl's online activity.

Loehrs said she could not conduct a forensic analysis of the prosecution's screen shots of websites as there was no computer. Without the computer,

she said she simply reviewed the screen shots.

The prosecution alleged that the computer that Weindl used to access child pornographic websites could not be found after the defendant threw it in the jungle.

Defense counsel David Banes showed in court the government's exhibits of pornographic images of females, including those who looked like minors,

during Loehrs' testimony.

Loehrs said it is not fair and accurate to say that those images were the same that Weindl viewed or visited in several websites, as the government alleged. She said Internet images change every second or are constantly changing.

Loehrs said the content of the sites may change at any time so any screen shots of such web-

sites even a day later from when the E-blaster reports were generated may have different content than when the sites were originally accessed.

E-blaster is a computer and Internet monitoring software program.

Loehrs said the type of computer used to download the images from the websites is also a factor to see different images because of download speed.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom yesterday afternoon, Loehrs was still on the witness stand. She is expected



Weindl

to continue her testimony today, Wednesday.

The prosecution alleged that as indicated in the E-blaster reports, Weindl searched for and accessed almost 200 websites containing images of child pornography.

The prosecution said that several of the searches conducted and websites accessed specifically reference "eleven year old girl" and "twelve year old" engaging in sexual conduct.

Weindl's daughter, Capt. Amanda Weindl of the U.S. Air Force, also briefly testified yesterday by video telephonic conference about the defendant's good character.

## Ex-Customs officer in 'ice' case allowed to go to Guam

The federal court has reset the sentencing of former Customs officer Peter M. Iguel to allow him to travel to Guam for his wife's medical treatment.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Monday vacated Iguel's sentencing for Feb. 19, 2013, and reset it to May 29, 2013.

Manglona issued the order after Iguel and the U.S. government agreed to allow the defendant to travel to Guam.

The judge ordered Iguel to return to Saipan on or before May 29, 2013.

The defendant disclosed that his wife was recently diagnosed with a serious medical condition and that she is presently being

treated in Guam.

Iguel will be traveling to and from the Guam Memorial Hospital and other medical treatment facilities as needed to assist his wife.

In October 2010, Iguel pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine.

The indictment charged Iguel with one counts of conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine, and two counts of distribution of methamphetamine.

According to the indictment, from June 10, 2010 until Aug. 22, 2012, Iguel conspired with other persons to distribute "ice." The involved "ice" was allegedly worth \$420. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Trainee Christian Villanueva of the Marianas High School Cooperative Education and Training Program, center, is flanked by Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Erlinda Naputi and Ray Deleon Guerrero Jr. during an appreciation luncheon at the 360 Revolving Restaurant on Friday.

## MHS student finishes library training

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A Marianas High School student received last week a certificate of recognition after completing his training at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

Christian Villanueva was a trainee from October to February at the CNMI's state library through MHS' Cooperative Education and Training Program.

JKPL's Erlinda Naputi said

yesterday that she and Villanueva's supervisor, Ray Deleon Guerrero Jr., took Villanueva out for an appreciation luncheon on Friday at the 360 Revolving Restaurant where the student received his certificate.

Naputi said that during the training, Villanueva assisted library staff by re-shelving books and other materials according to the Dewey Decimal Classification used by JKPL.

She described the high school trainee as quiet but attentive, a fast learner, always ready to assist whenever needed, responsible, and reliable.

"We thanked him for having chosen the library as his training ground. He's been a great help," Naputi told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Naputi, JKPL has been partnering with MHS for the program, more commonly referred to as "Co-op"

and is designed to prepare high school students for the job market by allowing participants to gain work experience at an off-campus institution.

The public library gets one to two Co-op trainees every semester.

"Through the training, we show the students how the library operates and what the staff does to encourage them to consider a career as a librarian in the future," added Naputi.



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### PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on Thursday, February 7, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
  - c. Adoption of Agenda
  - d. Adoption of Minutes
  - e. Tuesday, November 27, 2012 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**
- IV. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
  - a. NMHC Annual Report – Division Highlights, Challenges, and Goals
  - b. LIHTC Program – Draft 2013 and 2014 QAP
  - c. USDA RD Guaranty and Plan of Action
  - d. CDBG Updates
  - e. Program and Housing Division Updates
  - f. Mortgage & Credit Division
    1. Loans for Review and Approval
    2. Payment Assistance Request
    3. Tottotville Home Improvements
  - g. Board Resolution No. 81
- V. FIELD OFFICE REPORTS**
  - a. Rota Field Office
  - b. Tinian Field Office
- VI. FISCAL AFFAIRS**
  - a. Unaudited Financial Statements as of December 31, 2012
  - b. Actual vs. Budget Comparison as of December 31, 2012
  - c. Fiscal Division RFP
  - d. Investment of Section 8 Admin Fees
  - e. 2012 Draft Audit Report
- VII. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT**
- VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- IX. OTHER MATTERS**
- X. ADJOURNMENT**

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ **MARCIE M. TOMOKANE**  
Chairwoman of the Board



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS  
PSS HEAD START PROGRAM  
P.O. BOX 501370, SAIPAN, MP 96950

### Head Start Policy Council Special Meeting

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Head Start Policy Council hereby gives notice that it will have a Special Meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2013 at 8:30 a.m., at the Tanapag Head Start Resource Center, Tanapag, Saipan.

- I. Preliminary Matters**
  1. Call to Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Quorum
  4. Adoption of Agenda
- II. Public Comments**
- III. Old Business**
  1. Action Items:
    - a. Staffing Pattern
    - b. Site Updates
- IV. New Business**
- V. Executive Session**
- VI. Next Meeting**
- VII. Adjournment**

### Note:

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7), the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session. Public Comments are limited to 15 minutes, therefore comments are limited to 3 minutes each.

This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcome to attend. Any person(s) requiring special accommodations may contact Ms. Annie Santos at (670) 664-3751/3761 or email address at [ana.santos@cnmips.org](mailto:ana.santos@cnmips.org); several days notice is required.

/s/ **Antonio Mesngon**  
Chairperson

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# Page-by-page review of impeachment panel's draft report

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Members of the Special Investigating Committee on Impeachment reviewed page-by-page a draft of their report on a resolution impeaching Gov. Benigno R. Fitial for 18 allegations of corruption, felony, and neglect of duty during a four-hour

closed-door meeting that wrapped up around 6pm last night.

The committee, chaired by Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan), will continue its review of the 51-page draft report this morning and tomorrow afternoon.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), a committee member, said they were able to cover some 20 pages

of the 51-page draft report during yesterday's review, although members kept going back to some of the pages.

House Speaker Joe DeLeon Guerrero (IR-Saipan) separately said that once the committee report is finalized and signed the panel members, it will then have to be filed with the House clerk.

DeLeon Guerrero, main author of

the impeachment resolution, said the full House vote on the resolution may happen on Friday afternoon or Monday, depending on the committee review and finalization of its report.

Sablan said the working draft report has a section citing the constitutional authority of the Legislature to carry out the impeachment process, history of the impeachment process,

the rules adopted by the impeachment panel, procedures, a discussion of the 18 articles and their groupings based on the nature of the allegations, findings of fact, subpoenaed document, the committee's vote on each of the 18 articles, and recommendations.

The governor can be impeached and convicted on any one of the 18 allegations.



## CULTURAL CLUB

Members of Hopwood Junior High School's Rafalawash Cultural Club have their picture taken after caroling at the hospital, various hotels, and at the KKMP radio station in December 2012.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## CONTRACT

From Page 1

cash-flow problems, its Medicaid program ran out of funds to pay for its local share in the program, incurring millions of dollars in arrears to providers here and off-island.

PHI suspended its services to Medicaid patients in July last year due to the government's outstanding debt. *Saipan Tribune* learned that the Medicaid program owed the pharmaceutical firm over \$1.5 million, representing two years' arrears.

Cohen said he recently received a small payment from the Department of Finance with the understanding that regular payments will come next.

Cohen said the new contract was signed by four parties: the company, the Office of the Attorney General, the Finance secretary, and the Medicaid Office. The new agreement takes effect for one year with a provision that regular payments will be remitted to the company on a bimonthly basis. PHI Pharmacy expects regular payments to start by the end of next month.

Cohen said he was elated by the turnout resulting from the signing of the new contract. PHI Pharmacy's two outlets in Dandan and Navy Hill began accommodating Medicaid patients on Saturday.

According to Cohen, an estimated 400 Medicaid patients visited the pharmacy in just the first four days since

the contract signing. Many of them, he said, have been waiting for their medications since June last year. He encouraged more Medicaid patients to visit PHI and get their medications. He also affirmed the company's commitment to keep medication costs down.

Cohen hopes this development will reduce patient traffic at the hospital's emergency room, which he said saw a significant increase during the period when services to Medicaid clients were suspended.

Based on the company's database, there are an estimated 15,000 to 16,000 patients that use Medicaid as their insurance carrier. PHI Pharmacy has been serving Medicaid patients since 1996.

The Medicaid Office earlier dis-

closed to *Saipan Tribune* that it owes private medical providers—both off island and on-island—approximately \$15 million.

The Medicaid program is designed for low-income individuals and re-

ceives funds from both federal and local government through a 45-55 percent matching ratio. The lack of money to match the federal share has been preventing the program from paying all its reimbursements to vendors.

## CRUNCH

From Page 1

to Delegate [Gregorio] Kilili [Sablan] for congressional support," Yumul said. "If not, we are going to look for a pension obligation bond that's short-term, maybe less than \$80 million, at least to carry us for the next few years so that we can continue to work on the bigger plan."

That bigger plan includes the possible fee simple sale of public lands that are currently leased to hotels.

As chairman of the ad hoc committee on Fund issues, Yumul asked Senate floor leader Victor Hocog (R-Rota) and Sen. Frank Borja (Ind-Tinian), along with other members, to report to him their own suggestions in the next few days.

Yumul said he is also suggesting that the government run after certain retirees who owe public agencies such as the Commonwealth Development Authority and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and come up with an offsetting plan wherein their payments of these debts will be taken from their regular pensions.

Hocog and other lawmakers earlier also tossed the idea of reducing certain retiree dependents' benefits.

All these are in addition to House Special Fund Committee chair Mario Taitano's (IR-Saipan) proposal to defer 20 to 30 percent of pension benefits for up to five years, as well as float a bond as approved by voters during the Nov. 6 elections.

Taitano separately said his committee is committed to coming up with proposals to help the pension agency, of which he is a former employee.

Taitano, Yumul, and other lawmakers met with Razzano, acting Fund administrator Lilian Pangelinan and other Fund officials on Friday.

The government owes the Fund some \$300 million in unremitted employer contributions plus interest.

In January, Fund actuary Dylan Porter of Buck Consultants presented their 2010 actuarial study to lawmakers.

The study says the Fund's resources could be depleted by March 1, 2014, if refunds are paid and employer and employee contributions are not paid, or it could be depleted by Nov. 1, 2016, if the refunds are not paid and employee and employer contributions are paid.

## SECURITY

From Page 1

up security.

"It's a work in progress and we've been working with relevant agencies in addressing the recommendations. We are working to make sure the Executive Branch, the Legislature, and the Judiciary meet the security standards. As you know, there have been a lot of changes happening in the United States and other parts of the world, we have to work on security issues," he said.

Seman said Friday's incident at the governor's office "is not [to be]

taken lightly."

"There will be changes because of the recent event. ...There will be changes in the security policies. The governor is the head of the state and there are standards that need to be met to ensure his safety and security," Seman told *Saipan Tribune*.

As of yesterday afternoon, the administration is not saying what specific changes will be made at the governor's office although they may include installation of surveillance cameras, additional door locks, and limited access doors.

Demapan, however, said these additional security measures need to be

balanced with the public's need to have easy access to their government.

Police arrested Brian Kendall, 48, for going to the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill on Friday and allegedly stating that the governor should not resign but die. He was served an arrest warrant on Saturday in Papago on charges of making a terroristic threat and disturbing the peace.

The defendant also allegedly told the governor's senior policy adviser, Dr. John Joyner, that when the governor uses the back door to avoid the media, he will be there at the same time "and bash him with the metal pipe or aluminum bat."



# Faculty raps endorsement of rejected policy changes

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

The Board of Regents was alerted yesterday to the endorsement of some proposed changes in the policies of Northern Marianas College despite being rejected by the institution's shared governance councils.

Faculty Senate member Kyle Podziewski told regents during yesterday's board meeting that three items on the agenda relating to the "repeal of old board policies" are not supported by the shared governance councils, yet the management went ahead and endorsed them to the board.

Podziewski was referring to the proposed repeal of old policies governing student services, human resources, and finance and procurement.

"We are concerned because these [proposed repeal of policies] were rejected at the shared governance process and yet are being presented to the board. We want to make sure that the board is aware of this," said Podziewski during the public comment period yesterday.

According to Podziewski, the management had informed the shared governance councils that these "rejected" proposed policy amendments will be rewritten but they have yet to be provided copies of these rewritten policies. However, these items were on yesterday's agenda for board review.

The board did not take up the proposed policy amendments yesterday. Instead, board chair Juan T. Lizama formed a policy committee to handle the subject, with regent William Torres serving as pan-

el chairman and all regents as members.

On the new committee's table for deliberation are Board Policy No. 206 pertaining to

policy introduction, amendment, passage, and suspension; Board Policy No. 206.3, which pertains to budget, audit, and finance committee;

Board Policy No. 402, which relates to student health insurance; and the proposed administrative regulations to enforce a drug-free workplace, tobacco,

and betel nut policy.

The policy committee gave itself 30 days to review any proposed new policy and procedures for the college.

## NMC seeks waiver to give off-island instructor higher salary

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College is seeking a waiver from the Board of Regents so it could give a higher salary to an off-island candidate for a hard-to-fill position, a proposal that received strong opposition from two regents who said the proposal is "unjust and unfair" to current college employees.

NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., and human resource officer Christopher Timmons presented the proposal to the board yesterday, saying the waiver is necessary to fill one of the most challenging and hard-to-fill positions at the college: nursing instructor.

They disclosed that the female applicant is qualified and willing to accept the step 1 salary grade, but Timmons admitted that he is uncomfortable making the offer. A step 1 salary grade amounts to \$25,000 per year.

Timmons and Hart said that offering the amount to the applicant who has a master's degree might open potential legal issues for the college. Timmons said the Nursing Department currently has an instructor who has a bachelor's degree but is getting over \$40,000 per year. The applicant was offered only \$23,000 per annum for the same position despite having a master's degree and experience.

It is for this reason, Timmons said, that they want the exemption for this applicant, who has been put on hold for two weeks now.

Timmons said he will also recommend to the board the creation of a new faculty salary floor, which he acknowledged may take time to complete. For now, he emphasized

the urgency of the need for the waiver so as not to lose the qualified candidate.

"I have difficulty in recruiting here and following the [salary schedule]," Timmons told the board. "I am asking the board to amend the procedure you adopted in 2011."

At NMC, the lowest paid full-time academic instructor makes about \$39,000 per year while the step 1 grade for a master's degree holder is \$25,000. Timmons pointed out the big discrepancy in the two amounts and admitted that he can't "legally" offer the \$25,000 salary package to the applicant.

Timmons also said that under the current salary policy, experience was excluded among the factors considered when deciding on the salary of employees.

According to regent William Torres, the management's practice of providing special or case-by-case accommodation has to stop. He believes that if the applicant is willing to accept the starting salary offer—regardless of qualification or experience—then there should be no problem.

Regent Andrew Orsini also reminded the board of recent allegations of favoritism and special accommodations raised by the faculty against the management when they issued a no-confidence vote against Hart in December.

When asked for guidance, board legal counsel Jesus Borja emphasized the importance of adhering to board policies and procedures. However, he also reminded the board that it has a policy on suspending its own procedures if the board wishes to do so.

Board chair Juan T. Lizama referred the issue to the committee level for review and deliberation.

## Man in 'ice' case found using drugs again

Jesse Reyes Babauta, a former Corrections officer who is awaiting sentencing in a methamphetamine or "ice" case, has been found using illegal drugs again.

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday that Babauta tested positive for methamphetamine on Dec. 12, 2012.

Arriola said that Babauta admitted in writing to using the controlled substance.

During a noncompliance

meeting with the U.S. Probation Office on Dec. 13, 2012, Babauta was admonished about his drug use and told that further use could result in court sanctions, Arriola said.

The probation officer said Babauta has undergone substance abuse assessment and will begin receiving treatment at Marianas Counseling Services each month.

Arriola said that Babauta will be closely monitored and that any noncompliance will be immediately reported to the court.

No court action over Babauta's "ice" use was requested at this time.

According to court documents, Babauta pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine in December last year. He will be sentenced on April 26, 2013.

According to the indictment, Babauta conspired with other persons to distribute "ice" from June 2010 until Aug. 22, 2012, in one instance within 1,000 feet of a school.

This wasn't the first time Babauta was found using drugs.

The Probation Office reported last December that Babauta tested positive for "ice" use on Nov. 8, 2012, and that the defendant admitted to using the drug.

In February 2011, a man filed in federal court a police brutality lawsuit against Babauta and the Department of Corrections and several other co-defendants. Quirino G. Adlaon alleged that while he was in jail on traffic charges, Babauta assaulted him, knocking his teeth loose. Babauta then allegedly took a cup of water and splashed its content on Adlaon's face. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

### Menus for February 2013

CHMI Public School System Food & Nutrition Services Program

Download our Menu and Print Mail Application at [http://www.chmi.org/page\\_14219](http://www.chmi.org/page_14219)

### HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

### YEAR OF THE SNAKE

蛇

The Chinese New Year begins with the new moon on February 10. 2013 is the year of the Snake.

#### Friday, February 1

**Breakfast**  
Cinnamon Roll  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Beef Bulgogi with Rice  
Local Greens  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chicken Caesar Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Fruit

#### Monday, February 4

**Breakfast**  
Corn & Egg Soup  
Breadsticks or Crackers  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Chicken w/Stir Fried Vegetables and Rice  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Tuna Keloguen Wrap  
Fruit

#### Tuesday, February 5

**Breakfast**  
Breakfast Omelet with Rice  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Beef & Bean Macaroni Bake  
Green Peas  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chilled Turkey, Ham & Cheese Sub with the WORKS  
Green Peas  
Fruit

#### Wednesday, February 6

**Breakfast**  
French Toast with Syrup  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Chicken Adobo with Rice  
Local Greens  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chilled Italian Sub with the WORKS  
Texas BBQ Beans  
Fruit

#### Thursday, February 7

**Breakfast**  
Fried Rice & Chicken Nuggets  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Chilled Club Sub  
Steamed Broccoli  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Baked Fish with Vegetables  
Steamed Broccoli  
Fruit

#### Friday, February 8

**Breakfast**  
Egg Salad Sandwich  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Frijoles con Carne with Rice  
Fiesta Corn  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Pepperoni & Bell Pepper  
Pizza  
Corn  
Fruit

#### Monday, February 11

**Breakfast**  
Arrozcaldo Soup  
Breadstick or crackers  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Gingered Pork with Carrots  
Potato Wedges  
Rice  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chicken Pancit with Stir Fry Vegetables, Potato Wedges  
Bread, Fruit

#### Tuesday, February 12

**Breakfast**  
Meat Lovers Omelet & Rice  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Chicken, Cheese, Onion Pizza  
Carrot & Cucumber Sticks  
Bean Dip  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chilled Turkey, Ham & Cheese Sub with the WORKS  
Carrot Sticks & Bean Dip  
Fruit

#### Wednesday, February 13

**Breakfast**  
Pancakes & Turkey Sausage  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Oven Fried Chicken  
Red Rice  
Texas BBQ Beans  
Local Greens  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chilled Tuna Sub  
Texas BBQ Beans  
Fruit

#### Thursday, February 14

**Breakfast**  
Fried Rice with Grilled Ham  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Cheesburger  
Orange Sweet Potatoes  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Southwest Chicken Salad with Chipotle Ranch  
Garlic Bread  
Fruit

#### Friday, February 15

**Breakfast**  
Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Baked Fish with Rice  
Broccoli, Corn Salad  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chilled Italian Sub  
Corn Salad  
Fruit

#### Monday, February 18

**Presidents' Day**

**Breakfast**  
Bacon & Bell Pepper Omelet  
Steamed Rice  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Chilled Italian Sub with the WORKS  
Carrot Sticks & Bean Dip  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chicken, Cheese, Onion Pizza  
Carrot & Cucumber Sticks  
Fruit

#### Tuesday, February 19

**Breakfast**  
Bacon & Bell Pepper Omelet  
Steamed Rice  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Chilled Italian Sub with the WORKS  
Carrot Sticks & Bean Dip  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chicken, Cheese, Onion Pizza  
Carrot & Cucumber Sticks  
Fruit

#### Wednesday, February 20

**Breakfast**  
French Toast with Syrup  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Italian Lasagna  
Dinner Roll  
Steamed Broccoli  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Pork Stew with Rice  
Fruit

#### Thursday, February 21

**Breakfast**  
Tropical Fried Rice  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Cajun Red Beans and Sausage with Rice  
Corn  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Grilled Chicken Salad Sub with the WORKS  
Corn, Fruit

#### Friday, February 22

**Breakfast**  
Grilled Cheese Sandwich  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Chicken Burger with the WORKS  
Baked Sweet Potato Fries  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chef Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Fruit

#### Monday, February 25

**Breakfast**  
Ham and Cheese Melt  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Pork Loin Chop with Rice  
Stir fried vegetables  
Texas BBQ Beans  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Japanese Chicken Yakisoba  
Fruit

#### Tuesday, February 26

**Breakfast**  
Ham, Onion, Cheese Omelet  
Steamed Rice  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce  
Potato Wedges  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chilled Turkey, Ham & Cheese Sub with the WORKS  
Potato Wedges  
Fruit

#### Wednesday, February 27

**Breakfast**  
Pancakes & Sausage  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Beef Bulgogi with Rice  
Local Greens  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Chicken Caesar Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Fruit

#### Thursday, February 28

**Breakfast**  
Chamorro Sausage Fried Rice  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Sweet & Sour Pork with Rice  
Peas  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Enchiladas—Lasagna Style  
Rice  
Peas  
Fruit

#### Friday, March 1

**Breakfast**  
Cinnamon Roll  
Fruit

**Lunch**  
Chicken Curry with Rice  
Cucumber Salad  
Fruit

**Secondary Second Choice**  
Pepperoni Pizza  
Tomato & Cucumber Salad  
Fruit

### What's on your plate?

HELP FRUITS AND VEGETABLES  
GRAIN, POTATOES, WHOLE  
PROTEIN FOODS  
DAIRY

### Soup's on!

The earliest evidence of humans eating soup goes back 6,000 years -- and according to archeologists, it was hippopotamus soup! While hippo broth is no doubt tasty, it probably wouldn't be the first choice for most of us. But soup is generally a delicious and healthy treat, especially this time of year!

Learn more at [www.CHOOSEMYPLATE.gov](http://www.CHOOSEMYPLATE.gov) or [http://kidshealth.org/kid/say\\_healthy/foodpyramid.html](http://kidshealth.org/kid/say_healthy/foodpyramid.html)

### NUTRITION TO GO

Try to get in the habit of considering the "Nutrition Facts" label when you're deciding what groceries to buy. Similar products and competing brands can vary widely in the daily values for "good" ingredients (such as vitamins, minerals, and fiber) as well as "bad" ones (like saturated fat, cholesterol, and sodium).

a tasty bite for parents

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

James Joyce -- Feb. 2  
Hank Aaron -- Feb. 5  
Abraham Lincoln -- Feb. 12  
Frederick Douglass -- Feb. 14  
Susan B. Anthony -- Feb. 15  
George Washington -- Feb. 22

### HOLLYWOOD HERO

The awards for the best movies and film performances (the "Oscars") are being held this year on February 24. The first Oscars were given out in 1929, but it wasn't until 1954 that an African-American (Dorothy Dandridge, pictured here) was nominated for a best acting award. She didn't win the Oscar, but she set the stage for future African-American winners Sidney Poitier, Denzel Washington, Halle Berry, Jamie Foxx, and Forest Whitaker.

### AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Learn more at [blackpast.org](http://blackpast.org) or do a search for Dorothy Dandridge



# Sandy Beach Homes gives CK Beach Park a facelift

About 15 individuals from Sandy Beach Homes, the CNMI's first Low Income Housing Tax Credit residential complex, turned out at 9am on Monday, Feb. 4, for a cleanup project at the Laly 4 Beach in Chalan Kanoa.

The cleanup was coordinated with the Office of the Mayor of Saipan. In addition to crew from Triple J

staff and several community members who assisted, the mayor's special adviser, Henry Hofschneider, joined the effort on behalf of Mayor Donald Flores.

Over 20 bags of trash were collected. The group also water blasted pavilions, repaired picnic benches, and cleaned the roofs of the pavilions. Composted

leaves and debris collected in the effort were stockpiled and also made available for neighborhood residents in need of compost and top soil.

"Sandy Beach Homes is happy to be a part of the Chalan Kanoa community, and this is just one way of showing our appreciation to our good neighbors for welcoming us,"

said Sandy Beach Homes managing member Bob Jones. "We were also approached during the cleanup by neighborhood residents to become actively engaged in the annual village fiesta coming up in May and the Neighborhood Watch program, which we are looking forward to."

Jones added the housing commu-

nity will continue to volunteer time and supplies in partnering with other businesses to keep the area clean. "We are happy to help. This is one of Saipan's most beautiful parks," added Jones.

Last year, Sandy Beach Homes also donated \$30,000 worth of playground equipment to the park. **(PR)**



The restrooms of Chalan Kanoa Beach Park were waterblasted as part of the Sandy Beach Homes cleanup of the park on Feb. 4, 2013.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Saipan Mayor's special adviser Henry Hofschneider, front, assisted volunteers of Sandy Beach Homes in the cleanup of Chalan Kanoa Beach Park on Feb. 4, 2013.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



The pavilions of Chalan Kanoa Beach Park received a facelift with water blasting during the Sandy Beach Homes cleanup of the park on Feb. 4, 2013.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



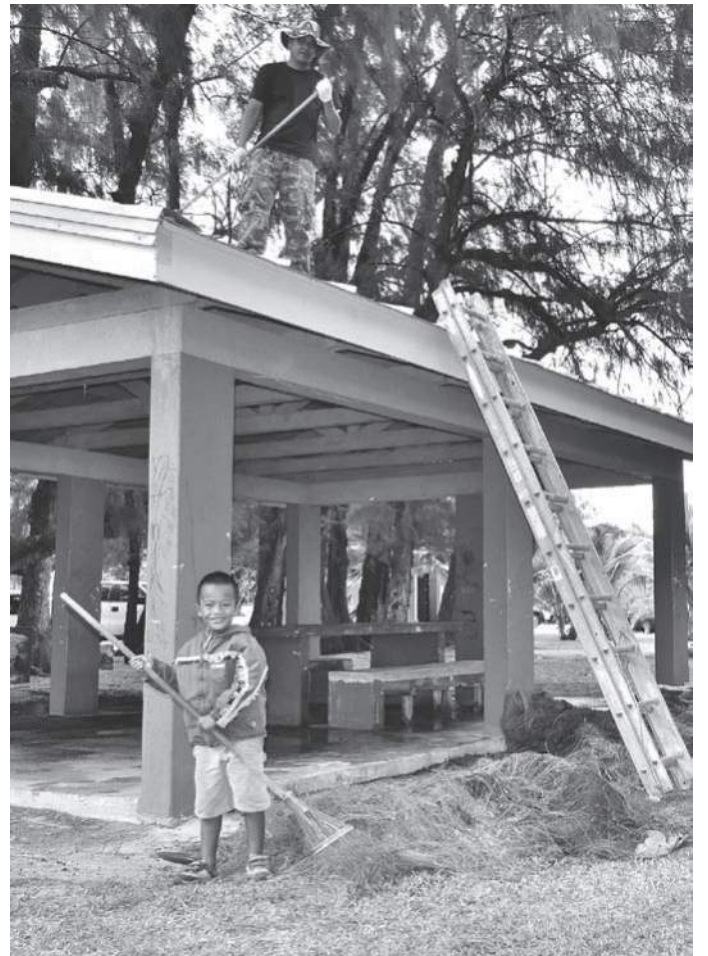
From left, Sandy Beach Homes manager Mike Sablan and Chalan Kanoa residents Ben Taitano and Henry Kaipat, join a cleanup of Chalan Kanoa Beach Park on Feb. 4, 2013.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



From left, Triple J staffers Danny Balahadia and Robert Moreno and Saipan Mayor's special adviser Henry Hofschneider at the Sandy Beach Homes cleanup of Chalan Kanoa Beach Park on Feb. 4, 2013.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



A young resident of Chalan Kanoa lends a hand at the Sandy Beach Homes cleanup of Chalan Kanoa Beach Park on Feb. 4, 2013.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS



JVA No. 13-014

Opening Date: Monday, February 4, 2013  
Closing Date: Friday, February 15, 2013

### Trades Foreperson (Mechanic)

**DUTIES:** Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Serves as a foreperson, leading a team of workers - assigning and monitoring work and providing technical direction. Trouble shooting and Problem Solving. Plans work and prepares daily schedules and submits for approval. Responsible for teams output and productivity. Performs inspections and monitors subordinates work. Responsible for safety and enforcing CUC policies within the team. Performs inventory spot checks on tools, parts and materials; processes requisitions for necessary tools, parts and materials. Prepares and submits weekly and monthly reports. Provides technical advice and performs journeyman level operations and maintenance level work in the service area assigned. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

**LOCATION:** Primarily at the Power Generation on Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. However, periodic meetings may occur at the CUC Main Office on Saipan. Periodic work at Power Plant 4 is possible. Periodic travel to Rota possible for the Power Plant there; duration may be about four weeks in some cases.

**SALARY:** \$21,104 to \$30,601 per annum; Un-classified.

**POSITIONS:** One (1).

**CONTRACT:** Not Contracted; may be subject to work authorization requirements..

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** High School Diploma or General Education Diploma or Adult Basic Education. Four years of journey-level experience at the level of a Trades Technician, or comparable experience related to the Power Generation area assigned, including one year of experience leading a crew. Graduation from a Vocational/Technical Institution as a mechanic. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Mathematics for Technicians. Skill in: Preparing daily schedules, prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Trouble shooting; Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level operations and maintenance in service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS



JVA No. 13-015

Opening Date: Monday, February 4, 2013  
Closing Date: Friday, February 15, 2013

### Trades Foreperson (Electrical)

**DUTIES:** Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Serves as a foreperson, leading a team of workers - assigning and monitoring work and providing technical direction. Trouble shooting and Problem Solving. Plans work and prepares daily schedules and submits for approval. Responsible for teams output and productivity. Performs inspections and monitors subordinates work. Responsible for safety and enforcing CUC policies within the team. Performs inventory spot checks on tools, parts and materials; processes requisitions for necessary tools, parts and materials. Prepares and submits weekly and monthly reports. Provides technical advice and performs journeyman level operations and maintenance level work in the service area assigned. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

**LOCATION:** Primarily at the Power Generation on Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. However, periodic meetings may occur at the CUC Main Office on Saipan. Periodic work at Power Plant 4 is possible. Periodic travel to Rota possible; duration may be about four weeks in some cases.

**SALARY:** \$21,104 to \$30,601 per annum; un-classified; un-graded.

**POSITIONS:** One (1).

**CONTRACT:** Not Contracted; may be subject to work authorization requirements.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** High School Diploma or General Education Diploma or Adult Basic Education. Four years of journey-level experience at the level of a Trades Technician, or comparable experience related to the Power Generation area assigned, including one year of experience leading a crew. Graduation from a Vocational/Technical Institution as an electrician. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Mathematics for Technicians. Skill in: Preparing daily schedules, prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Trouble shooting; Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level operations and maintenance in service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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P.O. Box 500369 Saipan MP 96950 • Tel # (670) 234-6601 Fax # (670) 234-8007

### Position : (4) WAITRESS

Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent with minimum of 2 years work experience preferably in hotel operations. Good customer service, communications and interpersonal skills are required. Ability to work a variable schedule on occasion, including early mornings, evenings and/ or weekends. Must have fluency in English and Chinese language.

Applications can be obtained from Kanoa Resort's security office located on the Hotel's Backside. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than February 11, 2013. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort, is located next to Saipan World Resort Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan, and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



# MWA's annual Valentine's Walk is a go

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Marianas Walking Association will be able to host its annual Valentine's Walk after getting a sponsor for this year's event.

MWA's Hiroko Tajima said yesterday that Marianas Health Services has stepped up to support the event, slated for Saturday, Feb. 9, starting from the Carolinian Utt in Garapan.

Tajima said participants will walk along the Beach Road Pathway and have the option to choose the 5K walk up to the Old Japanese Tank or the 10K

walk, which will reach the Oleai Beach pavilion and back.

Registration is free to the public and begins at 6am. Participants will receive special T-shirts while supplies last.

Tajima said MWA is very excited to work with Marianas Health Services for the first time.

She noted that as a non-profit organization, MWA needs the support of the community to carry out their activities every year.

Besides the Valentine's Walk, MWA also hosts annually the SOPHIA Walk in May, Foundation Walk in August, Aqua Walk around

September, Turkey Walk in November, and the Christmas Walk in December.

Tajima said they were actually planning to cut back on their regular events if they fail to get a sponsor to collaborate with them, given the "very difficult" economic situation in the islands.

"We're really very glad that Marianas Health Services is helping us this year," she said.

Tajima said Marianas Health Services will be providing free screening for blood pressure and blood sugar before and after the walk.

She said that Marianas Health Services and Home-

land Security will be providing special prizes.

Tajima urged the public to

# Man pleads guilty to disturbing the peace

A 65-year-old man accused of sexually assaulting his neighbor in Afetnas has pleaded guilty to disturbing the peace as part of a plea deal and was sentenced to 25 days in prison.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman accepted Emilio Dela Pena's plea last week and sentenced him to six months in prison, all suspended except 25 days. He was given credit for 11 days for time served.

The defendant was required to report to the Department of Corrections last Monday, Feb. 4. He is expected to be

strive to be healthy this year by joining the free walking event. For more information,

released on Feb. 18.

After his release, Dela Pena will be placed on probation for six month. He was ordered to pay a \$200 fine, \$25 court assessment fee, and \$60 in probation fee.

During his probation, the defendant is prohibited from having direct or indirect contact with the victim.

A police officer was dispatched to Afetnas in the morning of July 21, 2012, where an attempted rape allegedly occurred.

When a police officer arrived at the scene, the victim was

call Tajima at 287-8780, Bea Quitugua at 285-1694 or Hiroko Tenorio at 483-0614.

hysterical and told him that her neighbor, Dela Pena, tried to rape her.

The victim told police that Dela Pena went to her house and asked for coffee. Later, the defendant allegedly grabbed her breasts and tried to remove her shirt and attempted to kiss her.

When the victim shouted to call the police, Dela Pena ran to his house and left on a car.

Dela Pena told police that he had no intention of touching the victim's breasts as he was only trying to give her his cup. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 13-008

Opening Date: Monday, February 4, 2013  
Closing Date: Friday, February 15, 2013

Assistant Engineer  
(Electrical)

**DUTIES:** Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Rota or his/her designee. Assists with designs, executes, coordinates, or oversees assigned pieces of projects to ensure adherence with applicable specifications and standards. Assists the public with a variety of inquiries and requests; provides technical information on projects. Maintains project files; prepares related correspondence. Prepare RFPs. Assists with design calculations, engineering drawings, and sketch preparations. Prepare technical and engineering reports. Performs system loss and efficiency studies. Performs research for Engineers. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

**LOCATION:** Primarily at the Power Plant on Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. However, periodic meetings may occur at the Rota Administration Office.

**SALARY:** \$23,200.00 to \$33,640.00 per annum; Un-classified.


**POSITIONS:** One (1).

**CONTRACT:** Not Contracted; may be subject to work authorization requirements.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** Bachelors Degree in Electrical Engineering. Knowledge of: Safe work practices; Applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Basic project management principles; Engineering Math; Engineering principles and practices. Skill in: Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; Presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; Troubleshooting and problem solving; Reading and interpreting scaled drawings; Preparing specifications, plans, and cost estimates; Conducting studies; Using CAD programs to prepare plans for small projects and exhibits; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 13-009

Opening Date: Monday, February 4, 2013  
Closing Date: Friday, February 15, 2013

Assistant Engineer  
(Mechanical)

**DUTIES:** Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Assists with designs, executes, coordinates, or oversees assigned pieces of projects to ensure adherence with applicable specifications and standards. Assists the public with a variety of inquiries and requests; provides technical information on projects. Maintains project files; prepares related correspondence. Prepare RFPs. Assists with design calculations, engineering drawings, and sketch preparations. Prepare technical and engineering reports. Performs system loss and efficiency studies. Performs research for Engineers. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

**LOCATION:** Primarily at the Power Generation on Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. However, periodic meetings may occur at the CUC Main Office on Saipan. Periodic work at Power Plant 4 is possible. Periodic travel to Rota possible for the Power Plant there; duration may be about four weeks in some cases.

**SALARY:** \$23,200.00 to \$33,640.00 per annum; Un-classified.


**POSITIONS:** One (1).

**CONTRACT:** Not Contracted; may be subject to work authorization requirements.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering. Knowledge of: Safe work practices; Applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Basic project management principles; Engineering Math; Engineering principles and practices. Skill in: Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; Preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; Presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; Troubleshooting and problem solving; Reading and interpreting scaled drawings; Preparing specifications, plans, and cost estimates; Conducting studies; Using CAD programs to prepare plans for small projects and exhibits; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 13-010

Opening Date: Monday, Friday 4, 2013  
Closing Date: Friday, February 15, 2013

Trades Technician  
(Mechanic)

**DUTIES:** Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Rota or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Positions assigned to Power Generation are also responsible for: Control room Operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads.. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing , exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPCC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

**LOCATION:** Primarily at the Power Plant on Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. However, periodic meetings may occur at the Rota Administration Office.

**SALARY:** \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; Un-classified.


**POSITIONS:** One (1).

**CONTRACT:** Not Contracted; may be subject to work authorization requirements.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible, proven experience in the trade—in this case mechanic. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 13-011

Opening Date: Monday, February 4, 2013  
Closing Date: Friday, February 15, 2013

Trades Technician  
(Mechanic)

**DUTIES:** Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Positions assigned to Power Generation are also responsible for: Control room Operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads.. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing , exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPCC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

**LOCATION:** Primarily at the Power Generation on Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. However, periodic meetings may occur at the CUC Main Office on Saipan. Periodic work at Power Plant 4 is possible. Periodic travel to Rota possible for the Power Plant there; duration may be about four weeks in some cases.

**SALARY:** \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; Un-classified.


**POSITIONS:** Thirteen (13).

**CONTRACT:** Not Contracted; may be subject to work authorization requirements.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible, proven experience in the trade—in this case mechanic. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

CUC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER  
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 13-012

Opening Date: Monday, February 4, 2013  
Closing Date: Friday, February 15, 2013

Trades Technician  
(Electrical)

**DUTIES:** Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Positions assigned to Power Generation are also responsible for: Control room Operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads.. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing , exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPCC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

**LOCATION:** Primarily at the Power Generation on Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. However, periodic meetings may occur at the CUC Main Office on Saipan. Periodic work at Power Plant 4 is possible. Periodic travel to Rota possible for the Power Plant there; duration may be about four weeks in some cases.

**SALARY:** \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; Un-classified.


**POSITIONS:** Five (5).

**CONTRACT:** Not Contracted; may be subject to work authorization requirements.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible, proven experience in the trade—in this case electrical. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 13-013

Opening Date: Monday, February 4, 2013  
Closing Date: Friday, February 15, 2013

Trades Technician  
(Operator)

**DUTIES:** Under the general supervision of the Deputy Director for Power or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, maintenance and/or repairs in the service area assigned. Install new plant and equipment. Operate and maintain plant and equipment. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Positions assigned to Power Generation are also responsible for: Control room Operations and load dispatch. Monitor and balance generator and feeder loads.. Start up and synchronize generator sets. Monitoring lubrication oil and fuel consumption. Check and monitor engine oil and cooling water temperatures and pressures. Check and monitor bearing , exhaust gas and charge air temperatures. Record readings and report generator and feeder trips to plant management. Prepare switching programs and coordinate distribution line switching for plant and field staff. Monitoring loads on feeders and generators. Incinerating used oil and carry out SPCC plan routine work. Perform preventive maintenance and overhauls on plant and equipment. Troubleshoot and rectify faults on plant and equipment. Test and calibrate equipment. Condition monitoring and routine testing of generators, transformers and motors. Perform housekeeping duties. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

**LOCATION:** Primarily at the Power Generation on Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. However, periodic meeting may occur at the CUC Main Office on Saipan. Periodic work at Power Plant 4 is possible. Periodic travel to Rota possible for the Power Plant there; duration may be about four weeks in some cases.

**SALARY:** \$17,282 to \$25,059 per annum; Un-classified.

**POSITIONS:** Four (4).

**CONTRACT:** Not Contracted; may be subject to work authorization requirements.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education and four years of increasingly responsible, proven experience in the trade—in this case operator. Knowledge of: Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in assigned service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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# 'Island-style' cookies are coming

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Girl Scouts of the NMI will jumpstart their 2013 cookie season island-style by highlighting local flavors in cookies that will be sold from February to March.

Vice president Laila Boyer said at yesterday's meeting of the Rotary Club of Saipan that they will have flavors such as calamansi shortbread, pumpkin spice, sweet potato cheesecake, honey mango, and guava coconut.

As part of the cookie season, Boyer said the Girl Scouts of the NMI will hold a joint celebration of Valentine's Day and National Cookie Day on Saturday, Feb. 9, from 2pm to 4pm at the Chamolinian Room of Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Boyer said the idea to celebrate local flavors in their cookies, a major component of fundraisers for girl scouts, came about after discovering that the New York headquarters of the youth organization considers the CNMI overseas and won't send cookies to the islands.

She disclosed that the Girl Scouts of the NMI wrote a two-page letter asking the headquarters to afford them the same opportunity to sell cookies like what they gave Guam, a neighboring island located south of the Commonwealth and is only a 30-minute plane ride away.

Boyer, who is also the vice president for the Rotary Club of Saipan, said they are just awaiting a response from headquarters and CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan from whom they sought assistance regarding the matter.

"But we're taking it on a positive note. In the meantime, we're going to celebrate the lo-



CLARISSA V. DAVID  
Girl Scouts of the NMI vice president Laila Boyer, left, holds a sample of the green packaging for cookies with island flavors to be sold by their members, as volunteer Jessica Lee looks on during the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting held yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

cal flavors of our islands and we're making our own local-flavored cookies," she told Rotarians, adding that they will be working with local bakeries in this endeavor.

Boyer said the Girl Scouts of the NMI will have their own packaging for the cookies. Each green box will contain six pieces of cookies and the girl scouts selling the cookies will personalize the boxes "so you would know who you're buying the cookies from."

Boyer explained that they wanted to start off small, given the economic climate on the islands.

Majority of the cookie sales will be channeled through the troop, although they are also looking at setting up a booth at a local store.

The cookie season, which is also observed from June to July and October to November, is among the many activities to be conducted by the Girl Scouts of the NMI. Ini-

tially established in the '80s, the group became dormant after its founding members left the island, according to Boyer. The group finally became active again in September 2012.

Since their revival, Boyer said they've had 38 young girls sign up to become a part of their troop.

Boyer said that during Saturday's event, they will open anew the registration for young girls age 5 to 17 years old who are interested in becoming a Girl Scout. "Daisies" are girl scouts from kindergarten to first grade, "Brownies" are 2nd and 3rd graders, "Juniors" are 4th and 5th graders, "Cadettes" are 6th and 8th graders, "Seniors" are 9th and 10th graders, and "Ambassadors" are 11th and 12th graders.

Annual registration fee is \$12 per person. She added that they are also looking for adult volunteers who are 18 years or older.

Besides the cookie season, other Girl Scout events include

the proclamation signing for Girl Scouts Month every March, annual fundraisers in March and October, annual Girl Scout Fun Day in April, developing community partnerships, renovation of Garapan headquarters provided by the Northern Marianas Housing Corp., and other learning and development activities.

The Girl Scouts of the NMI is the local chapter of the Girl Scouts of the USA. For information about the Girl Scouts of the NMI, email girlscoutnmi@gmail.com.

## MMAC team meeting on Feb. 7

The 2013 Marianas March Against Cancer committee will be holding a team captains' meeting on Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013, beginning at 5:30pm at the DFS Saipan conference room (second floor) in Garapan. All 2013 teams are encouraged to attend.

"The 2013 MMAC committee is inviting all registered MMAC teams to attend this meeting where important information will be discussed. We are still looking for more businesses, schools, families, non-profit organizations and government agencies that might be interested in forming a team. Please join us at this meeting for more information," said 2013 overall MMAC committee chair Manny Borja.

The MMAC is the largest cancer fundraising activity in the Northern Mariana Islands. It is the signature fundraising event of the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

The 2013 Marianas March Against Cancer will be held on April 26-27, from 6pm to 6am at Hopwood Junior High School in Chalan Piao. Title sponsors include Delta Air Lines and DFS Saipan, Ltd. Special thanks to Traders Insurance Co. For more information on the MMAC call 989-1987, email emanuel.borja@gmail.com or visit www.ccamarianas.org. (PR)

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Feb. 6, 2001

### CHC pays debt with 2 Hawaii hospitals

The Commonwealth Health Center's Medical Referral Office settled on behalf of the Group Health and Life Insurance more than \$1.1 million debts, incurred by its subscribers' off-island medical treatments, to two Hawaii-based hospitals. GHLIP Manager Dolores Moore disclosed Medical Referral Office paid Straub Clinic and Hospital at least \$443,958.86 and Queen's Medical Center with \$773,212.03. The group health will settle the amount with the Medical Referral Office through staggered payment as GHLI subscribers remit their monthly contribution to the program. For the past months, GHLI has been trying to raise the amount to settle its outstanding debts to Queen's and Straub until the Medical Referral decided to pay the amount on behalf of the agency.

### Anti-domestic violence body backs telecom bill

The Family Violence Task Force has thrown its support to a pending legislative measure that seeks to criminalize the use of telecommunications systems and gadgets with intentions to harass individuals. But the Task Force wants the bill, sponsored by House Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee Chair Rep. Rosiky Camacho, to include additional electronic gadgets in the list of telecom tools that should not be used to cause discomfort to others. Project Coordinator Laura T. Flores said the Task Force commends the House PUTC committee for its efforts to safeguard the rights of domestic violence victims but stressed that some changes should be made in the proposed measure.

Feb. 6, 2002

### \$70M needed for potable water

Saipan needs close to \$70 million to have a 24-hour potable water service in the entire island. The figure was based on the Saipan Water Master Plan that was completed in 1996. Considering economic factors that happened after almost six years, however, the estimated cost may possibly be higher. "This water master plan for Saipan does not necessarily encompass everything because a lot of things have happened since 1996," said Pamela Mathis, corporate communications advisor of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation. "The Safe Drinking Water Act now requires a tremendous scope of water testing with a tremendous price tag." The master plan incorporates 21 projects to improve the island's water quality.

### Bush budget upholds CNMI funding

President Bush's proposed \$2.12 trillion spending plan for fiscal year 2003 brings good news to the CNMI. Although the proposed budget for insular areas is slightly down by \$11.2 million when compared to the FY 2002 budget level, the Office of Insular Affairs said Bush's budget plan seeks to maintain capital improvement assistance to the CNMI at \$11 million. This, even though the statutory earmark for 2003 is only \$5.4 million. "Even better, only the \$5.4 million will require a full match from the CNMI government, due to the increased financial needs of the CNMI," said OIA's Budget and Grant Management Director David Heggstad.

Feb. 6, 2003

### NMC's deficient audits alarm WASC

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges has expressed concern over the deficient audit reports submitted by the Northern Marianas College for fiscal years 1997, 1998, and 1999. It gave the college up to May 31, 2003 to correct these so-called deficiencies. "We received a letter from the WASC commissioner expressing concern on this," said NMC president Kenneth Wright, adding that his office will respond to the commission before the due date. Wright said the WASC noted that the college may not be in compliance for Standard 9 (fiscal management) and Standard 5 (student records).

### Bennett: Teachers can organize within PSS

Former public school teacher representative to the Board of Education Ambrose Bennett said the Constitution allows teachers to freely organize within the Public School System without fear of being reprimanded. Bennett made the remarks after the Board of Education cautioned him from using school time and PSS in his efforts to form a teachers' organization. "The CNMI Constitution clearly allows and requires that teachers organize within the Department of Education.

RAMON K. QUICHOCHO, ESQ. (CNMI Bar No. F0243)  
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Karlisa Center, 1st Floor, P.O. Box 505621, Saipan, MP 96950  
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MICHAEL W. DOTTIS, ESQ. (CNMI Bar No. F0150)  
O'CONNOR BERMAN DOTTIS & BANES  
2nd Floor, Marianas Business Plaza  
P.O. Box 501969, Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No. (670) 234-5684 • Facsimile No. (670) 234-5683  
Email: attorneys@pacific-lawyers.com

Attorneys

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

JESUS S. CABRERA, ROMANA U. MARATTA, BRINAE JESSLYN M. CRUZ, a minor represented by her next friend Janet U. Maratta, AND KAYAHUA TATH C. MANGLONA, a minor represented by her next friend Janae M. Cabrera, AND PRBYANTHA WUYAGUNARATNE, )  
Plaintiffs, )  
v. )  
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC., JACOB MCHENRY, AND DOES 1-10, )  
Defendants. )

TO: JACOB MCHENRY

YOU ARE HERBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the First Amended Complaint, which is served herewith, within twenty (20) days after service of this First Amended Summons upon you and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Plaintiff's attorneys, Ramon K. Quichocho, Esq., and Michael V. Dotts, Esq., whose addresses are:

Law Offices of Ramon K. Quichocho, LLC  
Karlisa Center, 1st Floor, P.O. Box 505621, Saipan, MP 96950  
and  
O'Connor Berman Dotts & Banes  
2nd Floor, Marianas Business Plaza  
P.O. Box 501969  
Saipan, MP 96950

as soon as practicable after filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. It may be prepared and signed for you by your attorney and sent to the Clerk of the Superior Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this First Amended Summons, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the First Amended Complaint.

By order of this Court, dated this 22 day of January, 2013.

PATRICK V. DIAZ  
Clerk of Court

By: /s/ Deputy Clerk

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122  
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC  
POST OFFICE BOX 5222  
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950  
TEL: (670) 234-6547  
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC., )  
Plaintiff, )  
-v- )  
LUCIA BORJA PALACIOS, )  
Defendant. )

CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0131

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 10, 2012, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 218-2-5, situated in As Teo, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a corner which is designated as Corner No. 1, having plane rectangular coordinates of 53,203.65 meters north and 66,755.91 meters east of the Mariana Islands district coordinate system of 1956.

Thence N 13° 35' 00" E, 13.18 meters to Corner 3; Thence S 80° 13' 00" E, 65.95 meters to Corner 4; Thence S 09° 47' 00" E, 28.85 meters to Corner 5; Thence N 80° 13' 00" W, 66.53 meters to Corner 1; the point of beginning.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on: Friday, March 8, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 29th day of January, 2013:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Joy W. Duenas  
P.O. Box 506311  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No.:  
(670) 235-3656

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the ) FCD CN  
Petition ) CIVIL  
for the Change ) ACTION  
of Name of: ) NO.  
Joy W. Duenas ) 13-0009  
Petitioner. )  
NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on February 21, 2013, at 10:30 am in Courtroom 205A before Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 17th day of January, 2013.

Patrick V. Diaz  
Clerk of Court

/s/Deputy Clerk of Court



# Lower fee for veteran license plate proposed

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan), along with seven other House members, pre-filed Monday a bill seeking to reduce the U.S. military veteran vehicle

license plate fee. It also seeks to waive the fee charged for the issuance of a veteran license plate to a veteran with permanent and total disability.

House Bill 18-11 amends Public Law 14-16 or the Veteran's License Plate Act of 2004.

"...the sacrifices these selfless and valiant men and women made in leaving their families to face adversities in foreign lands such as Korea, Vietnam, Kosovo, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Horn of Africa, and Iraq merits recognition and a meaningful way to

show our gratitude is by lowering license plate fees for veterans," said Deleon Guerrero, a veteran, in his bill.

To avail of the proposed discounted rate, which should be 25 percent less than the fee charged for a similar license plate for

the same class of vehicle, one must have at least served 160 consecutive active service days and were honorably discharged from the U.S. armed forces.

The proposed "zero" veteran license fee is for veterans rated by the U.S. Department of Vet-

erans Affairs at a 100 percent permanent and total disability.

"Other states and territories have provided such benefits to its veterans and it is time that the Commonwealth also remembers the contributions and the sacrifices made by the sons and daughters of the Commonwealth that have led to the freedom we enjoy today," the bills adds.



## ZUMBA CLASS

Zumba enthusiasts dance outside at the Northern Marianas College Gym on Friday and Saturday in the first Zumba classes held at the college. Close to 80 participants took part in both days. For more information about the Zumba class and other community enrichment courses, contact the NMC Community Development Institute at 234-5498 Ext. 1010.

NMC

## Changes in budget allotment form for NMI's federal grant programs

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Government agencies receiving federal grants are required to follow changes to the budget allotment form specifically for all federal grant programs.

"All allotments received beginning Feb. 1, 2013, that are not in

compliance with this form will be returned without action," Virginia Villagomez, the governor's special assistant for management and budget, said in a Jan. 25 memo.

Villagomez said the purpose of this change is to redesign the form to group the Commonwealth's detailed expenditure class to be aligned with the fed-

eral programs expenditure class pursuant to a non-construction budget form called SF-424a.

The form will ensure that the CNMI is in compliance with Circular A-102 or the Grants and Cooperative Agreements with State and Local Governments, with regard to budget changes.

Attached in Villagomez's memo is a sample of the form, reviewed by the Department of Finance's Finance and Accounting-Federal Grants Section and adopted by the Office of Management and Budget. The form is numbered SF-CNMI-OMB13-424a.

As a result of these changes, future allotments are supposed to be

submitted using this format and routed first through the Office of Grants Management for review by the grants administrator; and second, through Finance and Accounting Division for certification by the federal grants supervisor, prior to submission to the Office of Management and Budget.

The federal government's direct expenditures or obligations in the CNMI totaled over \$258 million in 2010, while federal grants alone reached almost \$190 million in 2010, exceeding CNMI revenue of over \$130 million. For fiscal year 2013, the CNMI's budget is \$114 million, much less than the federal money coming in.

## MATH WHIZ

Congratulation to Juliana "Iya" Vergara, for winning first place in the Mathcourt competition held on Feb. 2, 2013, at the Koblerville Elementary School. Vergara is a first grade student of WSR Elementary School. Keep up with the good job, little princess! Greetings coming from Ivan, Ninang, and Ninong.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday greetings go out to the most amazing mother anyone could ever ask for, Romana U. Maratita! Words are not enough to express the gratitude that you deserve for all that you have done for us throughout the years! Wishing you a day as sunny as your smile, as warm as your heart, and a day as wonderful as you are! We love you! Greetings come from Dad, Lorenzo, Nina, and Zowie, Bridget, Calvani, Micaela, Brinae, and Heaven, Janae, Ezra, Kayhana, and Janez.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to Regina Frances Terlaje Pangelinan, who turns 7 today, Feb. 6! We love and hope you have a good day. Coming out from Dad, +Mommy, Mark, Sabrina, Reynee, and the families of Pickelsimers, Woodworth, Hazen, and Terlaje.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Our little girl so small and sweet, those tiny hands and tiny feet. Everyday we watch you grow, we teach you everything that we know. As we blink the time it flies, we always remember every moment twice. Happy birthday to our precious daughter Shalei Terrie, who is turning 4. We love you each and everyday and forever more. Greetings coming out from Mommy, Daddy, and the entire familia.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings go out to Jacoby Jeremiah Atalig Fejeran, who is celebrating his special day today, Feb. 6, 2013! You have always made us proud. Our blessings and support are always with you. May God bless you with all you desire in life! Happy birthday! With much love, your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 10th birthday Froilan Gregory Cabrera Camacho! May you have many more blessings to come. Greetings coming out from Dad, Mom, Kiana, Alana, and the family.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Anton Montano Silson, who is celebrating his third birthday today, Feb. 6, 2013! Greetings coming from Tita Jeng-Jeng, Tito Borge, Kuya Jemo, Kuya Jerome, and Janvir.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Free business workshops

The CNMI Small Business Development Center presents two free workshops:

■ "Intro to Financial Statements" on Feb. 8, from 9am to 11am, at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office in Garapan.

■ "Domestic Exporting: Freight Forwarding by Air and Sea" featuring Jerry Crawford on Feb. 19, from 9am to 11am at the SCC office in Garapan.

Deadline for pre-registration is 12pm, one business day before the workshop. Online registration is available at [pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com](http://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com). Walk-ins are allowed, depending on space availability. For more information, contact CNMI SBDC at (670) 664-3018, Caller Box 10007 Saipan MP 96950 or email [www.pacificsbdc.com](http://www.pacificsbdc.com). (SBDC)

### MHS quarter report cards day

To all parents and legal guardians of the Mighty Dolphins of Marianas High School, we will be distributing the 2nd Quarter Report Card on Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013, from 4pm to 6pm in the MHS Gym. Students will be released at 1pm on this day to allow the school time to prepare for the event. If you have any questions, please call the Main Office at 237-3206/5. (PR)

### Deadline to register for NCLEX -RN review course

The deadline to register for the University of Guam's Comprehensive NCLEX-RN review course is Feb. 15. The course is designed for individuals who have completed a foreign or U.S. nursing program but have not taken the National Council of State Boards of Nursing examination for certification as a registered nurse. This comprehensive course will provide candidates with a review of all areas of the examination. The course will begin March 2 and run through August 2013 and will be taught by UOG Nursing faculty. Registration fees are \$1,060 for 265 hours of instruction. Review books will be an additional cost. For more information, contact Cathleen Moore-Linn at 735-2600/1 [cmoore@uguam.uog.edu](mailto:cmoore@uguam.uog.edu) or Karen Cruz at 735-2660 or [kcruz@uguam.uog.edu](mailto:kcruz@uguam.uog.edu). (PR)

### Valentine's Walk on Feb. 9

The Marianas Health Annual Valentine's Walk will be held on Feb. 9, 2013. Free registration begins at 6am. The walk will start from the Carolinian Utt (next to Hafadai Beach Hotel) down the Beach Road Pathway. Turnaround for the 5K course is at the Japanese Tank, while the turnaround for the 10K course is at the Oleai Beach. Special T-shirt is available while the supplies last. For more information contact Bea Quitugua at 285-1694, Hiroko Tajima at 287-8780, or Hiroko Tenorio at 483-0614. (PR)

### MHS Class of '83 meeting

The MHS Class of 1983 would like to invite everyone to join them for their general meeting on Friday, Feb. 8, 2013, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion, Susupe, Civic Center Beach, at 7pm. If you have any question, call Tonnei Camacho at 483-9665. (PR)

### Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Feb. 6, from 3pm to 4pm, and on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Feb. 6-8, from 8am to 7pm. The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Feb. 6, from 11am to 2pm. The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. (PR)

### KHS takes over McTeacher Night

Kagman High School is hosting this month's McTeacher Night and will be hosting it "Kagman-Gangnam"-style at McDonald's Middle Road every Tuesday for the whole month of February (Feb. 5, 12, 19, and 26) from 5pm to 8pm. There will also be a parking lot dance-off by Kagman High School "AYUYUs." Proceeds of this fundraiser will go to repair the electronic PA system and school equipment. (PR)



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## 'Gene jockeys' and killer flu

Americans are still in the grip of a scary flu season. Who can forget the alarming headlines about the swift spread and virulence of this year's bug? Everyone's still on high alert should someone sneeze or cough on the bus, train, restaurant or office. Violators are dealt with harshly.

Now imagine a flu strain exponentially more contagious and more deadly. Fiction? Hardly. In late 2011, a Dutch scientist announced that he had genetically tweaked one of the world's most deadly bird flu viruses to make it more contagious to humans. In other words, a doomsday virus spread by a sneeze.

An international furor forced scientists conducting the experiments to back off. They declared a voluntary moratorium while government and research officials debated safety rules. Now, a year later, that moratorium is about to be lifted in many labs around the world. The U.S. is expected to release new guidelines for researchers within weeks.

The nagging question, however, remains: is this research safe? Many scientists say it is. The research can be safely done on the virus, known as H5N1, with strict security. Labs, for instance, need layers of security to make sure mutated viruses don't infect researchers or otherwise escape.

Maybe we've seen too many science fiction movies in which killer bugs escape, but we're skeptical. We'll take our cue from Dr. Michael Osterholm, a University of Minnesota influenza expert, who argues for strict limits on publishing details about the mutated H5N1 virus.

"The problem is once the work is done and the decision made to publish it, anyone in the world can (create a mutated virus)," Osterholm told us. "That is the part that hasn't been addressed. I don't worry about a U.S.-government supported lab that is under tight review and scrutiny. I worry about this work being done in the University of Podunk."

Osterholm also frets about "gene jockeys" in Third World animal vaccine manufacturers and do-it-yourself "garage biologists" who might be tempted to recreate the killer virus just to see if they can. "I think that (publishing details) is providing a blueprint for someone to create a global catastrophe. All you have to do is be wrong once here. You can't unring this bell. Once it happens, we're done. It's out. ... This is a potentially catastrophic event waiting to happen."

A recent editorial in the journal *Nature* was also skeptical: "An irreproachable, independent risk-benefit analysis of such research ... is still lacking."

That should be a flashing red light to policymakers. Yes, we see how these studies could help scientists devise battle plans should H5N1 mutate on its own to become widely contagious—it isn't right now—or be unleashed by terrorists. Science works best when information is unfettered.

But in this case, we're with those urging restraint.

Scientific journals should recognize that not publishing all the details of advancing H5N1 research is strongly in the public interest. This information is too risky to be splashed all over the Internet.

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## The CHARM OFFENSIVE



## Beyonce bounce

It was after Beyoncé's A-game half-time performance at the Super Bowl that the lights went out. Not quite immediately as the Ravens got the Niners' face redder than their uniform when all-pro returner Jacoby Jones dashed on the 2nd half opening kick-off from one end of the field to the other. Talented Niner QB Colin Kaepernick boldly struggled to get his team moving when suddenly the lights went out of the New Orleans' Mercedes Benz superdome.

We're ahead of our story.

Beyonce got a lot of ink in Obama's second inaugural when she lip-synced the national anthem. This time, during the halftime entertainment, she bootiliciously performed with erstwhile Destiny Child singing mates Kelly Rowlands and Michelle Williams. The grace and energy of their performance bested all previous halftime shows, surpassing wide commentaries Madonna elicited last year when she flashed the middle finger to the multimillion TV audience.

The more than 30-minute dome blackout got the players in a relaxed mode with the Niners emerging revitalized and the Ravens seemingly in quasi-retreat. In four minutes of play after the lights returned, the Niners racked 17 points. Memories of the comeback against Atlanta during the playoffs danced in every one's commentary, making this event more memorable than forgettable. The Niners maintained a spirited drive, jacking the score to 23 vs. the Ravens' 28 at the end of the third quarter.

Baltimore bounced in the fourth quarter but it was more defensive than threatening to run away with the game. In fact, with the Niners' QB CK scrambling, it was the Bay Area's bounce that held the audience's attention. CK fell short, so did time. The Raven's bounce sufficiently earned the football season's coveted prize as the Niners' honorably lost for the first time in their sixth appearance at the Super Bowl.

The Ravens got the Lombardi trophy; Jell-O jested that it will get the SF Niners a cup of fluffy punching pudding!

Jell-O's joke seemed well received in a culture where extreme effort is expected in achieving excellence in competition. The Hegelian dialectic of the determined clash between opposing forces that creates a synthesis underlies most of American sports' impetus. Winner-takes-all is the driving cultural, economic, and political ethos, suddenly becoming unpopular among Republicans who are still grieving their thumping in the last presidential election where all-or-nothing value guided many state's electoral contests.

We viewed the Super Bowl contest from the rhetoric of Beijing where cool competence is attained in balanced cooperation. That was touted in the Beijing 2008 Olympics where the spirit for athletes to compete against their last record was promoted. Of course, this was observed more widely in the breach than in the performance, but the nobility of the intent was in place.

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergara2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.



However, the principle was demonstrated well in the Sichuan earthquake relief effort, the volunteer services in the Shanghai Expo and Asian Games, and hopefully, in the upcoming Summer 2013 China Games in Shenyang.

Conversely, the Beijing current policy of scientific outlook on development with the double foci of people-centered and earth-friendly thrust has the Lei Fang (the young selfless personality who prematurely died and raised as a symbol of Chinese altruism, allegedly an alter ego for Mao Zedong) types on solid, less ideological, and practical grounds.

Whether the current Beijing leadership can imbue the governing *Gong Chang Dang* (CPC membership is 5 percent of the population) to combat corruption among its rank remains to be seen (high profile fall-from-grace cases like that of Chongqing former mayor and Politburo member Bo Xilai and his homicidal wife Gu Kailai hold promise). The effort, at least, at the rhetoric level, is not wanting of proponents. More critical is the system for achieving economic justice. The top 70 of China's rich now own the equivalent of what the top 660 of the U.S. wealthy own! The 1 vs. 99 in U.S. wealth dichotomy, painfully revealed by many Occupy movements, has become embarrassingly mirrored in Socialist China.

The Super Bowl demonstrated individual efforts like the Beyonce bounce also showed disciplined corporateness. As it was in the field where solo expertise and finesse was shown by individual athletes (as it is among politicians in the CNMI and beyond), the symphonic orchestration of plays on the dome's halftime stage had the imprint of many hands and minds. It is the awakened citizens' responsibility to now hold their politicians accountable to communal standards.

The United Nations' Millennium Development Goals targeted access for every child to a primary education by 2015. More than the numerical objective, education has to expand from the notion that we only train people to become productive units on the workforce but rather, we educate them to cooperate, collaborate, and celebrate the corporateness of a human global society.

Might what was shown as individual excellence and cooperative verve in the Super Bowl, and the intentional policies being attempted by our USA and CPC's China, find echo on the shores of Saipan.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Veering off

**T**hough Obama was re-elected for a second term, there's a powerful resentment by more than half the people across the fruited plain that our country should avoid sinking into the depression of "Learned Helplessness" via this administration's redistributionist policy.

Sad how more folks have opted to use government support rather than believe that they have what it takes to invent their own future and claim the mantle of self-reliance and earned opportunity that made America great.

Terry Paulson, Ph.D. and author, related that in Thomas Jefferson's original draft of the Declaration of Independence, he used the word "property" instead of "pursuit of happiness."

"Americans wanted the freedom to apply their own talents, character, and initiative to produce the unequal outcomes they earned in their own 'pursuit of happiness.' As a result, we've beckoned to those in the world willing to dream to come, work hard, and share in the limitless opportunities our country offered. And they came.

"Americans railed against confiscatory taxes. They were a strong, confident people who unleashed the most powerful economy in history. They weren't enticed by the egalitarian spread of socialism and communism. They didn't hate the rich; they wanted to join their ranks. Why? Because they knew and have seen millions of people who had bettered their lots in this great country," founded on freedom where you can be all that you want to be.

Our country offers so much and it is for this reason that hundreds of thousands of foreigners clamor annually through long immigration lines to try to come to the land of opportunity. While we still have what made our country great, let's guard it full press court and not emulate the fatal fate of European countries drowning in debts by the billions of dollars. It's the net result of a redistributionist policy where there are now more takers than there are givers or taxpayers.

Let's not try to figure out what we've lost after we've lost it. Let's recalibrate and rebuild our faith and untiring conviction to keep the

very principles that made our country the greatest ever!

### Search of a better life

Given the disorienting effects of economic disaster at home, we religiously probe our future in search of opportunities to better the lot of our children. We defer to the silent corner of our minds in hopeful prayers to think things through, only to drown in the sea of painful misery.

We regroup while pining for answers, any answer, only to fall off the cliff of hopelessness. But in spite of the hardship that we could literally see in the emaciated and beaten faces of our people, I still say, "This too shall pass." It seems stuck in my mind and I'm not giving up either.

As a retiree, I quietly swallow the impending likelihood of pay-less paydays beginning in March of 2014. This is inevitable if nothing is done to revamp and ensure the system is equipped with "corresponding contribution" so retirees are paid their dues.

There's the likelihood that many of us would lose the means to support ourselves, including the loss of our first family home, healthcare services, and costly medication. Who do we turn to when the bridge is slammed into the filthy swamp of neglect down below? Do we try to weather the unbearable failure of this administration to improve the lot of our people?

We look at the dismal performance of revenue generation having taken a quick slide deep south. It's indicative of humongous budgetary shortfall that means no money for hospital operation, payment of employer's contribution to the Fund, scholarships, our share in Medicaid, needs for PSS, among others. Where do we fit in the vacuous promise of "better times" that's known only to Fitial and cronies?

In the process, more than 2,000 of our people have quickly relocated elsewhere where the grass is greener. Many have made the commitment to stay away until it is returned to a government of laws. When their paradise has become a hellish hole, they're saying

buildings, transportation, hotels, airport, seaports, and even themselves. Businesses, lawmakers and even expert immigration lawyers are now moving toward curing deficiencies that could have been prevented if from the beginning they believed that irreparable injury is most likely to happen.

Foreign workers who go on vacation could hardly come back due to inconsistencies and uninformed U.S. consular offices around the globe. The injury, the balance of hardship is on top of these situations.

Balancing of equities is now the issue with the "fragile" state of the CNMI's economy and elsewhere that need continued access to skilled guest workers. A broader version of HB 1466 is now being considered to include a fifth group that was left behind in the original version. If a broader version of 1466 is going to happen, this is no different to the five recommendations of the DOI and the CNMI Senate version.

These plans and actions now being considered by businesses, politicians, and executives were the same things being voiced by foreign worker groups rallying for improved immigration status for foreign workers but it fell on the deaf ears of authorities. Now, businesses, lawmakers, and immigration experts want to do it themselves two years before December 2014. Thank you but wait, what about the 90-day renewal? Isn't that another irreparable harm and injury? Are we going to stop working while waiting for the approval and release of our renewal? I suggest that if an employer has complied with the 90-day renewal application, there is no reason for the employee to stop working. For those who did not comply with the 90-day renewal, then they should be penalized and wait for the release of their CW renewal.

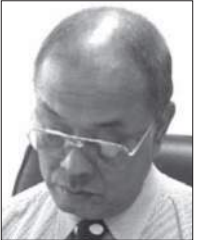
Extending the transition period for up to any year you want will not prevent foreign workers from leaving the islands. Improved immigration status is the only way to prevent foreign workers from leaving. At least the exodus is not happening at this point but by 2014, the exodus of foreign workers leaving the island is most likely to happen. When that time comes, we are prepared to leave. Majority of us spent more than a decade on the island and yet the availability of U.S. workers is far from reality. Extending the transition period will not prevent foreign workers from searching for other countries that need their skills and talents.

**Carlito J. Marquez**  
Lower Base, Saipan

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



"Move, JR, this is the time to do it where your credentials would rake in a decent salary to augment your retirement."

But half the fiber of my being refuses to follow the timely encouragement for I'd like to see the curtain as it is lowered, come hell or high water. I'd be the last to leave the gate and not until everything behind me is gutted into ashes and dumped in the Marianas Trench. Difficult as it may be, there's no greater place than the familiar shores, savanna, valleys, forest and crystal clear waters of home.

### Where have 'better times' gone

Indeed, I often find myself thinking through it all. I also can't understand how leadership has failed so royally in their promise to improve the lot of our people. They've simply lost their marbles or true north as they retract into *mañana*, hoping for some accidental phenomenon from divine providence. If it is a spiritual issue, go ahead and pray. But we're talking economics. Have you a plan on this score?

As I journey through the dense forest of leadership failure, there's obviously a major missing link that needed reinstatement forthwith: "Crises demand leadership," writes Robert Merry, an author of a book on presidential history, "and in the American system that leadership can come only from the president." Not just leadership, but leadership in the right direction. Hello, is the governor home?

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A year after November 2011

In December 2012, we, the plaintiffs asked for the voluntary dismissal of the lawsuit we filed last October 2011 and requested the U.S. District Court to modify or vacate its earlier order to reflect our action. Seven of us who filed the lawsuit to suspend the implementation of the CNRA CW final regulations last November 2011 are mostly long-term nonresident workers and small-scale businesses, and some have U.S. citizen children.

We signed the voluntary motion to dismiss through our lawyer because we found out and concluded that there is no point in attempting to proceed further with this type of lawsuit as we don't have the support of the very people we are fighting for and some do not believe that a lawsuit is the best vehicle at this moment to seek remedies for the serious deficiencies in the DHS' implementation of federal immigration in the CNMI. But the very essence of our lawsuit is now happening. Now, the very people we were fighting for are seeking relief off island, thank you.

For us, "dismissal with prejudice" of the unpopular lawsuit that we filed is highly expected, although we basically anticipated beforehand that the injunction would mostly likely succeed if given the chance that it is going to happen in the future, but we failed to establish the proper language in our original complaint in the absence of a lawyer because we filed it pro se. Without the help of a Good Samaritan businessman, we could not have filed the lawsuit because funding was our problem from the very beginning.

If help came to our side, the probability of success would have been high. Now there are entities, organizations, lawmakers and even immigration lawyers who are trying to cure the problems that the defective CW final rules created a year after. The table is now turned. Day by day, foreign workers are leaving the islands unnoticed. Businesses, lawmakers, and immigration experts are now in the field racing to cure the problems of CW regulations and searching for remedial actions on how to prevent foreign workers from leaving the island come December 2014 because their businesses will suffer as no one will take care of their households, hospitals,

## Out of touch

To Mr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.: For you to take umbrage at my personal opinion about the priorities of the CNMI's 18<sup>th</sup> Legislature means that you are totally out of touch with the real daily lives of citizens of this great Commonwealth. How dare you sit in Winter Haven in the sunshine state of Florida and comment on CNMI issues when it does not affect you whatsoever? I take umbrage at your comment for the following reasons:

First, what do you gain from continually speaking negatively about the CNMI? You are a hundred times in a better place than 90 percent of CNMI citizens. And while 90 percent of our citizens are suffering everyday, you sit and rock yourself in Winter Haven, Florida, and express outrage for my opinion?

Second, the parents of the CNMI are the governor and the Legislature. They must be mutually married to make sure that the upbringing of their children—the Commonwealth—is healthy. Even if the governor works very hard to implement programs and policies, if the Legislature works extra hard for political reasons to make sure that the programs and policies do not materialize, then the child does not have a choice but to die!

Mr. Arkle, the minimum wage in the CNMI is \$5.55 per hour. The kilowatt hourly charge of CUC is .36 cents. The hospital has just implemented its new rate that is not affordable by 90 percent of families in the CNMI. Retirees are still wondering what will happen to them if their only source of income comes to an end. How will impeaching the governor solve all these miseries? Will the impeachment of the governor resolve all the above suffering of the people of the CNMI? I think not, Mr. Arkle.

If you think that impeachment should be the first priority of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislature, then I say again to you: "You are out of touch with the current suffering of the people of the CNMI. To impeach Gov. Fitial will not solve any problems facing the people of the CNMI."

So go after the problems that you face in the continental United States of America. Leave us alone so that we can decide what is best for us and how best to persuade our elected officials to do what we think is best for us!

**Sid Kani**  
As Matuis, Saipan



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼75°	▲86° ▼75°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲85 ▼76
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼77
Yap	Showers	▲86 ▼77
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼79
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼80
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼80
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼80

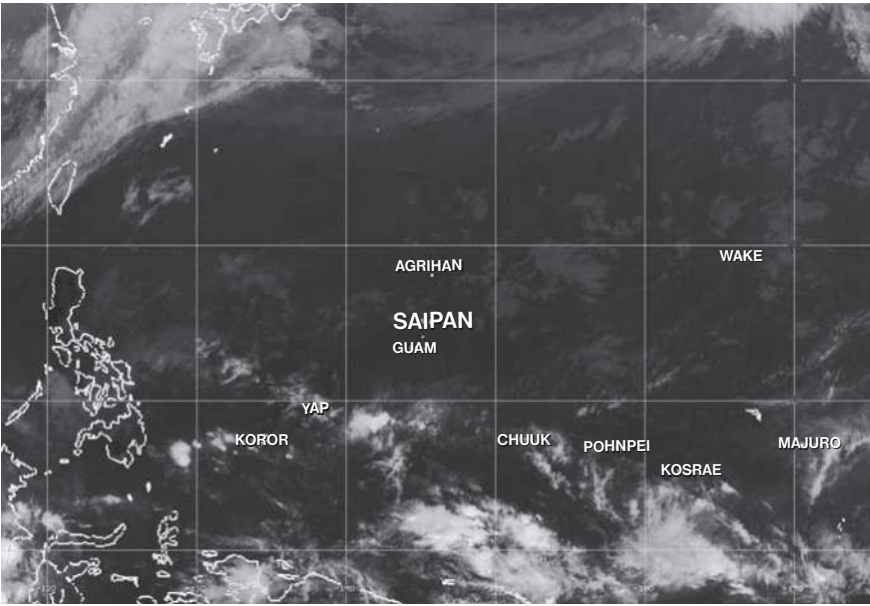
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲72 ▼60
Beijing	Sunny	▲32 ▼1
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲76 ▼68
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲80 ▼67
London	Showers	▲43 ▼32
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲64 ▼48
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲88 ▼76
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲95 ▼61
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲79 ▼61
New York	Snow	▲32 ▼29
Osaka	Rain	▲51 ▼42
Paris	Showers	▲41 ▼34
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲47 ▼29
Rome	Rain	▲53 ▼40
Salem	Rain	▲49 ▼42
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲57 ▼44
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲35 ▼10
Tokyo	Rain	▲44 ▼38
Washington, DC	Flurries	▲49 ▼33

### Tides

Saipan Harbor			
5:10 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
9:48 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
3:11 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
10:55 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An old shear line extends west-southwestward from 15N180 to pass just north of Kwajalein at 10N168E south of Guam at 8N145E near Koror at 7N135E to finally end southwest of Koror at 5N130E. Cloudiness and widely scattered showers are found along and up to 280 miles north of this boundary. A few thunderstorms are occurring along this boundary east of Yap between 140E and 145E. A near-equatorial trough curves eastward from southeast of Koror and Yap at EQ140E to south of Pohnpei at 3N163E to end at EQ169E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present well south of Guam, south of Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae or south of a line from 2N141E to 3N151E to EQ156E to 5N163E to EQ169E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:45 AM	6:17 PM
Thursday	6:45 AM	6:18 PM
Friday	6:44 AM	6:18 PM
Saturday	6:44 AM	6:19 PM
Sunday	6:44 AM	6:19 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	2:32 AM	2:11 PM
Thursday	3:32 AM	3:13 PM
Friday	4:30 AM	4:15 PM
Saturday	5:24 AM	5:16 PM
Sunday	6:14 AM	6:16 PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF FEB. 5, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)</b> UA5070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5062 4:40am 5:30am 1, 3, 5 UA5068 8:25am 9:15am Daily UA5074 11:10am 12:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5076 3:10pm 4:00pm Daily UA5078 6:55pm 7:45pm Daily UA5072 9:45pm 10:35pm Daily	<b>GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN</b> UA 5069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 4, 6, 7 UA5071 7:05am 7:55am Daily UA5073 9:50am 10:40am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 UA5075 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 5:35pm 6:25pm Daily UA5079 8:20pm 9:10pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> DL287 6:00am 8:40am Daily DL285 6:35am 9:15am 1, 5, 7 DL297 4:25pm 7:20pm Daily	<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN</b> UA5062 3:35am 4:10am 1, 3, 5 UA5038 10:55am 11:30am 6
<b>SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)</b> OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL286 7:40pm 12:15am+1 4, 6, 7 DL288 8:40pm 1:15am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 4, 6, 7 OZ608 3:30am 6:40am 3	<b>OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN</b> OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:20am Daily via KIX OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 5, 6 OZ607 9:35pm 2:25am+1 2
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> 3U8648 6:00am 8:35am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)</b> MU7108 3:50am 7:40am 1, 5	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> 3U8647 10:30pm 4:30am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b> 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	<b>BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN</b> MU7107 7:40pm 2:50am+1 4, 7
<b>SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)</b> XF1734 11:55am 5:10pm 5	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b> 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b> OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 UA5070/191 4:35am 10:00am 6 via GUM UA5070/191 4:40am 10:00am 3 DL287/173 6:00am 10:25pm Daily via NRT UA5076/183 3:10pm 9:30pm 2, 5 via GUM  UA5076/183 3:10pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM  OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN UA5072/PR111 9:45pm 7:45am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	<b>VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN</b> XF1733 8:00pm 12:05am+1 4
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)</b> OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN  UA5076/147 3:10pm 10:30pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b> OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily via ICN DL172/288 8:05am 1:15am+1 Daily via NRT UA190/5077 10:55am 6:25pm 3, 6 via GUM UA190/5079 10:55am 9:10pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN  PR110/UA5072 10:15pm 7:55am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM  UA184/5071 10:55pm 7:55am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM  UA184/5071 11:59pm 7:55am+1 2, 5 via GUM
<b>SAIPAN-TINIAN</b> FRE 101 6:45 6:55 Daily FRE 103 7:30 7:40 Daily FRE 105 8:00 8:10 Daily FRE 107 8:40 8:50 Daily FRE 109 9:10 9:20 Daily FRE 111 10:45 10:55 Daily	<b>HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN</b> OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN  UA180/5071 11:25pm 10:40am+1 1 via GUM UA180/5077 11:25pm 6:25pm+1 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>							
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	<b>Tinian-Saipan</b>			
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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# Business

## New BlackBerry to be released in US in mid-March

**TORONTO (AP)**—The chief executive of Research In Motion said he's disappointed the new BlackBerry won't be released in the United States until mid-March, but he said early data suggests sales in the U.K. are above expectations.

Thorsten Heins said in an interview Monday with The Associated Press that he was disappointed in the mid-March U.S. release date. But he said the U.S. and its phone carriers have a rigid testing system.

"We need to respect that. Am I a bit disappointed? Yeah, I would be lying saying no. But it is what it is and we're working with all our carrier partners to speed it up as much as we can," Heins said in an interview at the Ritz Carlton in Toronto.

RIM unveiled new BlackBerry last week after excruciating delays allowed Apple, Samsung and others to build commanding leads in the industry. The stock fell 12 percent after Wednesday's kickoff, despite positive reviews about the new Black-

Berry 10 operating system. There's concern the phone isn't coming out sooner after RIM announced a March U.S. release date last week.

Heins told the AP that it will be mid-March.

The first device in the new crop of the much-delayed revamped BlackBerry will be the touchscreen Z10. Black and white versions were released in the U.K. last Thursday and will be released in Canada on Tuesday.

Heins said a substantial number of U.K. users are moving from other platforms to BlackBerry and said that's an encouraging sign because they first targeted longtime BlackBerry users.

"It's beyond expectations," Heins said. "White is sold out already. The black is hard to stock up again. It's very encouraging. I won't share the number because I need to verify it, but we are getting a substantial number of users moving from other platforms to BlackBerry. That is an interesting data point."

Heins said they have to re-

take market share in the U.S. for BlackBerry to be successful. The U.S. has been one market in which RIM has been particularly hurting, even as the company is doing well in many places overseas. According to research firm IDC, shipments of BlackBerry phones plummeted from 46 percent of the U.S. market in 2008 to 2 percent in 2012. The iPhone and Android now dominate.

Heins, who one year ago replaced longtime executives who had presided over BlackBerry's fall, said he's confident BlackBerry can become the third ecosystem behind Apple and phones running Google's Android operating system.

"We need to win back market share to be relevant," Heins said. "We have to be aggressive in the U.S. market."

The new BlackBerrys are a make-or-break product lineup after the pioneering brand that lost its cachet not long after Apple's 2007 release of the iPhone, which reset expectations for what a smartphone should do.

## Ireland: Test shows Polish 'beef' 75 pct. horsemeat

**DUBLIN (AP)**—Ireland's government announced Monday that DNA testing has confirmed that Polish meat offcuts imported into Ireland and labeled as beef actually contain up to 75 percent horsemeat, a discovery made as Ireland's food-standards scandal forced a second burger manufacturer to shut operations. Agriculture Minister Simon Coveney said police have joined Ireland's 3-week-old investigation into why horsemeat has been detected in some Irish-produced burgers and the chief suspect, Poland, has yet to supply any adequate explanation.

Ireland's Food Safety Authority ordered the original DNA tests on Irish-produced burgers to determine whether they contained other meats beside beef.

The discovery of horsemeat poses no danger to consumers but highlights the inaccuracy of food labels on some processed meat products and points to potential fraud in the industry. Horsemeat costs a fraction of beef.

DNA results last month on a wide range of factory-made burgers in Ireland found more than a third contained at least a trace of horsemeat—and two, manufactured for the British supermarkets Tesco and Co-op, contained 29 percent and 18 percent horsemeat respectively. British officials said they feared that such horsemeat-tainted burgers had been on sale since mid-2012.

The Agriculture Department said Monday's test results found that a sample of the Polish product taken from the Rangeland

Foods beef-burger processing plant was found to be composed of 75 percent horsemeat.

It wasn't determined whether the latest results represented a higher level of horsemeat than detected in earlier tests, given that the initial DNA tests were on finished burgers while the latest pinpointed the volume of horsemeat in the imported Polish ingredient itself. The Polish product was labeled as beef offcuts—slaughterhouse leftovers—that the Irish plants used as cheap filler material in budget-priced burgers.

Polish authorities, fearful that their own lucrative meat-export markets could be damaged, insist their own testing of slaughterhouses implicated by Ireland has not turned up any evidence that any of them handled horsemeat.

parties are calling for Rajoy to resign. The allegations come at a time when the country was just beginning to show signs of convincing investors that its finances are improving.

### FDA allows generic version of scarce cancer drug

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Federal regulators say approval of the first generic version of cancer drug Doxil will help resolve a lingering shortage triggered by manufacturing deficiencies. The shortage of the Johnson & Johnson injectable medication, made under contract by Ben Venue Laboratories, has continued on and off for a few years. It's resulted in rationing, with some patients with ovarian and other cancers getting less-effective care, and disrupted studies testing Doxil against possible new treatments. The Food and Drug Administration says it's approved a generic version, called doxorubicin, made by Sun Pharma Global FZE. Last February, the FDA authorized temporary importation from India of a brand-name version, called Lipodox, also made by Sun Pharma. It's a subsidiary of an Indian drugmaker.

# Nation

## Records: Veteran had been in mental hospital

**FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)**—The Iraq War veteran charged with killing a former Navy SEAL sniper and his friend on a Texas shooting range had been taken to a mental hospital twice in the past five months and told authorities he was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, police records show.

Eddie Ray Routh, 25, also told his sister and brother-in-law after the shootings that he "traded his soul for a new truck," according to an Erath

County arrest warrant affidavit obtained by WFAA-TV. Police said Routh was driving the truck of victim and ex-Navy SEAL Chris Kyle at the time of his arrest.

Routh is charged with one count of capital murder and two counts of murder in the shooting deaths of Kyle, author of the best-selling book "American Sniper," and his friend Chad Littlefield at a shooting range Saturday in Glen Rose. He is on suicide watch in the Erath County Jail,

where he's being held on \$3 million bail, Sheriff Tommy Bryant said.

Routh, a member of the Marines Corps Reserve, was first taken to a mental hospital Sept. 2 after he threatened to kill his family and himself, according to police records in Lancaster, where Routh lives. Authorities found Routh walking nearby with no shirt and no shoes, and smelling of alcohol. Routh told authorities he was a Marine veteran who was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.



In this April 6, 2012, photo, former Navy SEAL and author of the book "American Sniper", Chris Kyle poses in Midlothian, Texas.

## Obama stands firm on gun control despite long odds

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)**—President Barack Obama declared Monday on his first trip outside Washington to promote gun control that a consensus is emerging for universal background checks for purchasers, though he conceded a tough road lay ahead to pass an assault weapons ban over formidable opposition in Congress.

"We should restore the ban on military-style assault weapons and a 10-round limit for magazines," Obama said in a brief speech, standing firm on his full package on gun-control measures despite long odds.

Such a ban "deserves a vote in Congress because weapons of war have no place on our streets or in our schools or threatening our law enforcement officers."

The president spoke from a special police operations center in a city once known to some as "Murderapolis" but where gun violence has dropped amid a push to address it from city leaders. Officers stood behind him, dressed in crisp uniforms of blue, white and brown.

The site conveyed Obama's message that a reduction in violence can be achieved nation-

ally, even if Americans have sharp disagreements over gun control. That includes among members of his own party in Washington.

Suggesting he won't get all he's proposing, he said, "We don't have to agree on everything to agree it's time to do something."

The president unveiled his gun-control plans last month after the shootings at a Newtown, Conn., elementary school. But many of the proposals face tough opposition from some in Congress and from the National Rifle Association.

## Authorities storm Alabama bunker, rescue young boy

**MIDLAND CITY, Ala. (AP)**—Authorities stormed an underground bunker Monday in Alabama, freeing a 5-year-old boy and leaving his increasingly agitated captor dead after a week of fruitless negotiations that left authorities convinced the child was in imminent danger.

Jimmy Lee Dykes, 65, had taken the child off a school bus after fatally shooting the driver. He was known by neighbors

for his anti-government rants and for patrolling his property with a gun, ready to shoot trespassers. He had stayed for several days in the tiny bunker before.

"He always said he'd never be taken alive. I knew he'd never come out of there," said an acquaintance, Roger Arnold.

Dykes had been seen with a gun, and officers concluded the boy was in imminent danger, said Steve Richardson of the FBI's office in Mobile.

It was not immediately clear how authorities determined the man had a gun, or exactly how Dykes died.

Late Monday, officers were sweeping the property to make sure Dykes had not set up any bombs that could detonate. Full details of the bunker raid had not yet emerged. However, neighbors described hearing what sounded like gunshots around the time officials said they entered the shelter.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### President signs bill averting government default

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—President Barack Obama has signed into law a bill raising the government's borrowing limit, averting a default and delaying the next clash over the nation's debt until later this year. The legislation temporarily suspends the \$16.4 trillion limit on federal borrowing. Experts say that will allow the government to borrow about \$450 billion to meet interest payments and other obligations. The Senate gave the bill final approval last week and sent it to Obama, who signed it Monday shortly after returning from Minneapolis.

#### Spain's political scandal pushes euro lower

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The euro fell against the dollar Monday as a political scandal in Spain worried investors. Spain's Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy denied allegations over the weekend that he and his party received secret cash payments from businesses. Spain's top prosecutor said it may call in Rajoy for questioning if necessary. Opposition





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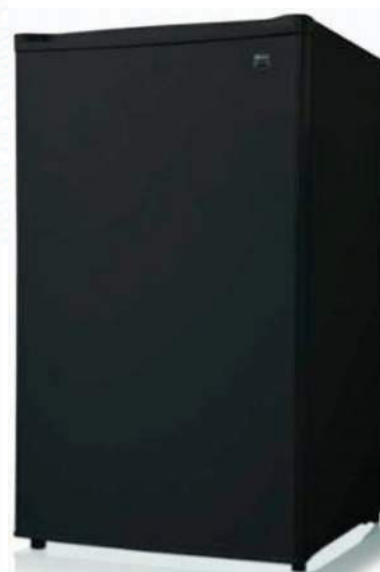


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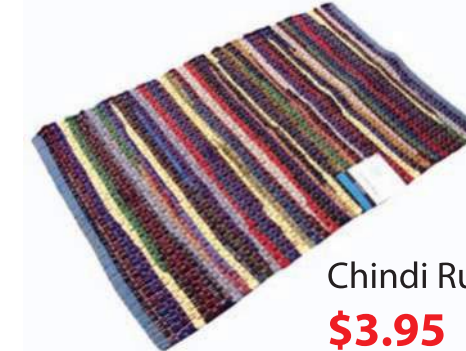
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# Asia

## Crime casts shadow over PH image makeover

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Even by the usual standards in the Philippines, where crime is an accepted part of life, the brazen evening robbery of a jewelry store in one of the world's largest malls shocked residents of Manila.

Shoppers at the SM Megamall, which attracts up to a million people a day, were forced to duck for cover as shots rang out. After scooping up gold jewelry, police say the robbers intentionally sparked panic by firing into the air, allowing them to mix in with frightened customers running for the exits to make their escape.

The robbery carried out with seeming impunity a week ago, along with one in another mall where the thieves exchanged fire with security guards, have alarmed the police, worried the president who is trying to boost the image of the country and left residents of the Philippine capital feeling helpless.

"You get a feeling of insecurity

because you never know what is going to happen to you," said Ces Afuang, a manager for an insurance company in Manila.

Security problems are not new to the Philippines—kidnappings and bombings have plagued the south of the country for decades—but the latest rash of violence comes as President Benigno Aquino III tries to shore up foreign investments and restore Filipinos' confidence in their government.

The high-profile crimes resulted in morning radio shows poking fun at the government's tourism slogan "It's more fun in the Philippines." The campaign was launched last year to show that the Southeast Asian nation of 7,100 islands has left behind its old image of a volatile, chaotic place. A record 4.3 million tourists visited last year, with the government setting an ambitious target of 10 million arrivals by 2016.

Few crimes hit closer to home

than those in malls, the place where residents of the capital love to shop, eat and hang out.

Even though two of the robbers in the Megamall heist were caught on security cameras, no arrests have been made. There have also been no arrests in the fatal shooting a few days later of a businessman who had just withdrawn money from a bank in San Juan, one of sprawling Manila's satellite cities. The following day, motorcycle-riding men robbed a money transfer outlet in Paranaque City, a middle-class neighborhood, then fired at a police car to make their getaway, although no one was hurt.

"These criminals ... if they want to enter an establishment, they can do so. The security guards are just standing there," said bank manager Enrico Santos. He added that when security is tightened after an incident, it is usually temporary. "After a while, say a month or two later, they go back. Security is lax."



AP

Pasay city SWAT members of the Philippine National Police make the rounds of banks as they go on patrol Friday, Feb. 1, 2013 at suburban Pasay city, south of Manila, Philippines.

## Skorea envoy says NKorea nuke test seems imminent

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)**—South Korea's U.N. ambassador said Monday a North Korean nuclear test "seems to be imminent."

Ambassador Kim Sook said there are "very busy activities" taking place at North Korea's nuclear test site "and everybody's watching."

Kim told a press conference that in the event of a nuclear test, he expects the U.N. Security Council to respond with "firm and strong measures."

North Korea announced last month that it would conduct a nuclear test to protest Security Council sanctions toughened after a satellite launch in December that the U.S. and others say was a disguised test of banned missile technology. The coun-

cil ordered North Korea in the sanctions resolution to refrain from a nuclear test or face "significant action."

South Korea joined the Security Council in January and holds the rotating presidency this month. Kim said he was speaking as South Korea's ambassador, not as the council president.

He said that during negotiations on the latest sanctions resolution all 15 council members - including North Korean ally China—were unified.

"They are very firm and resolute and I would expect very firm and strong measures to be taken in terms of format as well as in substance once they go ahead with such provocation" as a nuclear test, Kim said.

Pyongyang's two previous nuclear tests, in 2006 and 2009, both occurred after it was condemned by the United Nations for rocket launches.

The sanctions, aimed at trying to derail the country's rogue nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs, bar North Korea from testing or using nuclear or ballistic missile technology, and from importing or exporting material for these programs.

The latest sanctions resolution again demanded that North Korea abandon its nuclear weapons program and cease launches. It slapped sanctions on North Korean companies and government agencies, including its space agency and several individuals.

# World

## Beating, torture fuel sense Egypt police unchanged

**CAIRO (AP)**—The video outraged Egyptians, showing riot police strip and beat a middle-aged man and drag him across the pavement as they cracked down on protesters. The follow-up was even more startling: In his first comments afterward, the man insisted the police were just trying to help him. Hamada Saber's account, which he has since acknowledged was false, has raised accusations that police intimidated or bribed him in a clumsy attempt to cover up the incident, which was captured by Associated Press footage widely shown on Egyptian TV.

"He was terrified. He was scared to speak," Saber's son Ahmed told The AP on Monday. Saber recanted his story on Sunday after his family pushed him to tell the truth and acknowledge that the police beat him.

The incident has fueled an outcry that security forces, notorious for corruption, torture and abuse under former President Hosni Mubarak, have

not changed in the nearly two years since his ouster. Activists now accuse Mubarak's Islamist successor, Mohammed Morsi, of cultivating the same culture of abuse as police crack down on his opponents.

The outcry was further heightened Monday by the apparent torture-death of an activist, who colleagues say was taken by police from a Tahrir Square protest on Jan. 27 and held at a Cairo security base known as Red Mountain. Mohammed el-Gindy's body showed marks of electrical shocks on his tongue, wire marks around his neck, smashed ribs, a broken skull and a brain hemorrhage, according to a medical report.

Blatant abuses by security forces under Mubarak were one factor that fueled the 2011 revolt against his rule. The highly public nature of the new cases put new pressure on Morsi, who hails from the Muslim Brotherhood, which was long repressed by security forces, to hold security officials

responsible for any abuses.

Egypt's presidency said it was following up on el-Gindy's death, adding that there will be "no return to violations of citizens' rights." The Interior Ministry denied that el-Gindy was ever held by police. Morsi met with top police officials Monday, but the state newspaper Al-Ahram said the talks did not touch on the beating of Saber or el-Gindy's death. The paper said Morsi told officers he understood they operate under "extreme pressure" in the face of protests and that he would work for a political resolution to ease unrest.

Morsi's administration has said it is determined to stop what it calls violent protests that cause instability.

Morsi's prime minister, Hesham Kandil, admonished the opposition and media not to raise a public outcry against security officials. "This should not be used as a match to set fire to the nation ... to demolish the police," he said.

## In Israel raid, Syria options severely constrained

**BEIRUT (AP)**—Syria's defense minister signaled Monday that his country won't hit back at Israel over an airstrike inside Syria, claiming the Israeli raid was actually in retaliation for his regime's offensive against rebels he called "tools" of the Jewish state.

The remarks suggest the regime's military options might be severely constrained after 22 months of fighting an uprising that has depleted its weapons and stretched troops thin.

Israel has all but confirmed it was behind Wednesday's airstrike—a humiliating raid just few miles away from the Syrian capital, Damascus, that added another layer of complication to a chaotic uprising and civil war. U.S. officials said the Israelis struck a military

research center and a convoy next to it carrying anti-aircraft weapons destined for the Islamic militant group Hezbollah in neighboring Lebanon.

Syria vowed to retaliate, but the threats of retribution were seen by many as exceedingly mild, drawing criticism and mockery from rebels and opposition leaders who called it proof of President Bashar Assad's weakness and acquiescence to Israel.

In a televised interview Monday, Syrian Defense Minister Gen. Fahd Jassem al-Frej indicated that Syria may not be planning to retaliate at all. He said Israel attacked the research center near Damascus because rebels were unable to capture it. He called the rebels Israel's "tools."

He was asked by Syrian

state TV why Damascus does not retaliate against Israel.

"The Israeli enemy retaliated. When the Israeli enemy saw that its tools are being chased and did not achieve any (of their) goals, they interfered," he responded. "It was a response to our military acts against the armed gangs," al-Frej added. "The heroic Syrian Arab Army, which proved to the world that it is a strong army and a trained army, will not be defeated."

In surprisingly candid remarks, al-Frej said that rebels have made Syrian air defenses across the country a focus of their attacks over the past months, attacking some with mortars while attempting to seize others in order to incapacitate them.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### French troops to quit Timbuktu this week

**TIMBUKTU, Mali (AP)**—In a new phase of the Mali conflict, French airstrikes targeted the fuel depots and desert hideouts of Islamic extremists in northern Mali overnight Monday, as French forces planned to hand control of Timbuktu to the Malian army this week. After taking control of the key cities of northern Mali, forcing the Islamic rebels to retreat into the desert, the French military intervention is turning away from the cities and targeting the fighters' remote outposts to prevent them from being used as Saharan launch pads for international terror-

ism. The French plan to leave the city of Timbuktu on Thursday, Feb. 7, a spokeswoman for the armed forces in the city said Monday. French soldiers took the city last week after Islamic extremists withdrew. Now the French military said it intends to move out of Timbuktu in order to push farther northeast to the strategic city of Gao.

#### Activists: Stray cats dying in Belarus basements

**MINSK, Belarus (AP)**—City authorities in the Belarusian capital of Minsk are carelessly trapping stray cats in locked basements, dooming them to starvation, animal activists say.

Elena Titova, leader of the animal rights group Protect Life, says the ex-Soviet nation has no long-term shelters to house stray animals. She estimated that about 9,000 strays have been killed in the Belarusian capital alone over the past three years. "Killing the animals with impunity has become a government policy," Titova said Monday. "This barbarian policy can be described as 'No animal, no problem.' They find it easier to kill them as they don't have to build shelters." City authorities say they must isolate the basements of apartment buildings in line with Soviet-era health rules to prevent rodents from getting in.



# Focus

## People of Timbuktu save manuscripts from invaders

By RUKMINI CALLIMACHI  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**TIMBUKTU, Mali (AP)**—For eight days after the Islamists set fire to one of the world's most precious collections of ancient manuscripts, the alarm inside the building blared. It was an eerie, repetitive beeping, a cry from the innards of the injured library that echoed around the world.

The al-Qaida-linked extremists who ransacked the institute wanted to deal a final blow to Mali, whose northern half they had held for 10 months before retreating in the face of a French-led military advance. They also wanted to deal a blow to the world, especially France, whose capital houses the headquarters of UNESCO, the organization which recognized and elevated Timbuktu's monuments to its list of World Heritage sites.

So as they left, they torched the Ahmed Baba Institute of Higher Learning and Islamic Research, aiming to destroy a heritage of 30,000 manuscripts that date back to the 13th century.

"These manuscripts are our identity," said Abdoulaye Cisse, the library's acting director. "It's through these manuscripts that we have been able to reconstruct our own history, the history of Africa. People think that our history is only oral, not written. What proves that we had a written history are these documents."

The first people who spotted the column of black smoke on Jan. 23 were the residents whose homes surround the library, and they ran to tell the center's employees. The bookbinders, manuscript restorers and security guards who work for the institute broke down and cried.

Just about the only person who didn't was Cisse, the acting director, who for months had harbored a secret. Starting last year, he and a handful of associates had conspired to save the documents so crucial to this 1,000-year-old town.

In April, when the rebels preaching a radical version of Islam first rolled into this city swirling with sand, the institute was in the process of moving its collection into a new, state-of-the-art building. The fighters commandeered the new center, turning it into a dormitory for one of their units of foreign fighters, Cisse said. They didn't realize only about 2,000 manuscripts had been moved there, the bulk of the collection remaining at the old library, he said.

The Islamists came in, as they did in Afghanistan, with their own, severe interpretation of Islam, intent on rooting out what they saw as the veneration of idols instead of the pure worship of Allah. During their 10-month-rule, they eviscerated much of the identity of this storied city, starting with the mausoleums of their saints, which were reduced to rubble.

The turbaned fighters made women hide their faces and blotted out their images on billboards. They closed hair salons, banned makeup and forbade the music for which Mali is known.

Their final act before leaving was to go through the exhibition room in the institute, as well as the whitewashed



In this photo taken Tuesday, Mar. 16, 2004, Alhousseini Ould Alfadrou, 16, sings verses from crumbling ancient Islamic manuscripts in a mud-walled house in Timbuktu, Mali. Islamist extremists torched a library containing historic manuscripts in Timbuktu, the mayor of the town said Monday, Jan. 28, 2013, while owners have succeeded in removing some of the manuscripts from Timbuktu to save them and others have been carefully hidden away from the Islamists.

laboratory used to restore the age-old parchments. They grabbed the books they found and burned them.

However, they didn't bother searching the old building, where an elderly man named Abba Alhadi has spent 40 of his 72 years on earth taking care of rare manuscripts. The illiterate old man, who walks with a cane and looks like a character from the Bible, was the perfect foil for the Islamists. They wrongly assumed that the city's European-educated elite would be the ones trying to save the manuscripts, he said.

So last August, Alhadi began stuffing the thousands of books into empty rice and millet sacks.

At night, he loaded the millet sacks onto the type of trolley used to cart boxes of vegetables to the market. He

pushed them across town and piled them into a lorry and onto the backs of motorcycles, which drove them to the banks of the Niger River.

From there, they floated down to the central Malian town of Mopti in a pinasse, a narrow, canoe-like boat. Then cars drove them from Mopti, the first government-controlled town, to Mali's capital, Bamako, over 600 miles (1,000 kilometers) from here.

"I have spent my life protecting these manuscripts. This has been my life's work. And I had to come to terms with the fact that I could no longer protect them here," said Alhadi. "It hurt me deeply to see them go, but I took strength knowing that they were being sent to a safe place."

It took two weeks in all to spirit

out the bulk of the collection, around 28,000 texts housed in the old building covering the subjects of theology, astronomy, geography and more.

There was nothing they could do, however, for the 2,000 documents that had already been transferred to the new library, to its exhibition and restoration rooms, and to a basement vault. Cisse took solace knowing that most of the texts in the new library had been digitized.

Even so, when his staff came to tell him about the fire, he felt a constriction in his chest.

The new library is housed inside a modern building, whose sheer walls are made to resemble the mud-walled homes of Timbuktu. Cisse braved his fear to slip through the back gate on the

morning of Jan. 24.

The alarm was still screaming. The empty manuscript boxes were strewn on the ground outside in the brick courtyard. All that was left of the books was a soft, feathery ash.

Cisse then entered the library. The glass cases in the exhibit room were empty. So was the manuscript restoration lab, its white tables blanketed in dust. The manuscripts left out were gone.

But the librarian knew the bulk of the books was in a storage room in the basement. With the alarm still screaming, he walked down the flight of pitch-black stairs.

The room had been locked shut. And he was too afraid to open it, because the mayor of Timbuktu had warned residents that the retreating rebels had mined the town and booby-trapped strategic buildings.

So he waited.

On Jan. 28, a column of more than 600 French troops rolled into the city.

The same day, they came to inspect the institute. They spraypainted in pink the word "OK" in front of each room they cleared, working their way to the basement. They pummeled the locked door. When the door slapped open, Cisse felt as if his chest was about to explode.

They beamed a flashlight into the darkness. In the pools of light, he made out the little bundles of parchments sitting on the rafters. They were where they had left them nearly a year ago, in a room the Islamists had never discovered.

The director-general of UNESCO toured the damaged library this weekend, alongside French President Francois Hollande, who made a triumphant visit to Timbuktu. She described the manuscripts as a global treasure. "They are part of our world heritage," said Irina Bokova. "They are important for all of Africa, as well as for all of the world."

Cisse estimates that what was lost in the end is less than 5 percent of the Ahmed Baba collection. Which texts were burned is not yet known.

He stresses that all the manuscripts, which date back over 700 years, are irreplaceable. They are hand-written in a variety of scripts, and include ornate illustrations embedded within the text.

The collection is itself only a portion of the estimated 101,820 manuscripts stored in private libraries here, the product of the confluence of caravan routes which passed through Timbuktu and fostered an extensive trading network, including in books. Among the most valuable are the Tarikh al-Sudan and the Tarikh al-Fattash, chronicles which describe life in Timbuktu during the Songhai empire in the 16th century.

"We lost a lot of our riches. But we were also able to save a great deal of our riches, and for that I am overcome with joy," Cisse said. "These manuscripts represent who we are.... I saved these books in the name of Timbuktu first, because I am from Timbuktu. Then I did it for my country. And also for all of humanity. Because knowledge is for all of humanity."



# Campus Life

## JA competition focuses on young entrepreneurs

**S**aipan Southern High School was the big winner at this year's Junior Achievement competition after being hailed as the contest's Company of the Year during awarding rites on Jan. 19, 2013, at Saipan World Resort.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

The CNMI Junior Achievement Program organizers, competitors, and guests gather for a group photo after the awarding ceremonies on Jan. 19 at Saipan World Resort.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Members of the Kagman High School's Express It! company receive the Best at Trade Fair awards during a ceremony on Jan. 19 at Saipan World Resort.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Saipan Southern High School's Coco-Yo Company employees pose for a group photo with competition judges during awarding rites on Jan. 19. The 25-member group emerged as the big winner this year after being named the Company of the Year.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

The Marianas High School's Fuerte Vici company bagged the competition's Perseverance Award.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

William Guan of Marianas High School's Fuerte Vici company receives the Public Relations VP of the Year award.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Photo shows the individual awardees from Kagman High School's Express It! Students who bagged special awards: Malaina Kileleman, Jadrien Lotoc, Carlo Ballesteros, Jolisa Pangelinan, and Brandon Santos.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Kagman High School's Jolisa Pangelinan, center, receives the President of the Year award for this year's JA Competition. Others in photo are her team members and judges of this year's contest.



## Life & Style

# Beyonce not the cause of Super Bowl blackout

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Don't blame Beyonce for blowing the lights out at the Super Bowl.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said Monday that the halftime show was not the cause of the power outage that darkened the Superdome for half an hour during Sunday's broadcast.

"There's no indication at all that this was caused by the halftime show. Absolutely not. I know that's been out there that this halftime show had something to do with it. That is not

the case," Goodell said.

Beyonce was the halftime performer at Sunday night's game and used plenty of power to light up the stage. Some had joked that her electrifying performance was to blame for the outage.

But the halftime show was running on its own generator, said Goodell and Doug Thornton, a vice president of SMG, the company that manages the Superdome.

"It was not on our power

grid at all," Thornton said, adding that the metered power consumption went down during halftime because the house lights were down.

Beyonce's 13-minute set included hits "Crazy in Love," "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)" and a Destiny's Child reunion.

The energetic performance was sung live days after she admitted she sang to a pre-recorded track at President Barack

Obama's inauguration. And it won applause from critics who called it a major improvement over Madonna, who sang to a backing track last year, and the Black Eyed Peas' much-criticized halftime show in 2011.

Alicia Keys performed the national anthem on piano before the game, and Jennifer Hudson sang "America the Beautiful" with the 26-member Sandy Hook Elementary School chorus.

Beyonce posted on her blog that she was proud to be among those female talents, which included her Destiny's Child bandmates Kelly Rowland and Michelle Williams.

"What a proud day for AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN!!!!," she wrote. "You are all beautiful, talented and showed so much class! It was an honor to perform at the Superbowl with you phenomenal ladies."

Beyonce announced Monday

that her "The Mrs. Carter Show World Tour" will kick off April 15 in Belgrade, Serbia. The European leg of the tour will wrap up May 29 in Stockholm, Sweden.

The tour's North American stint starts June 28 in Los Angeles and ends Aug. 3 in Brooklyn, New York, at the Barclays Center.

It was also announced Monday that a second wave of the tour is planned for Latin America, Australia and Asia later this year.

## Oscar producers aim to cut out the boring parts

**BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)**—The producers of the Academy Awards have good news for those watching at home: They're trying to cut out the boring parts.

Oscar producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron say they watched 40 years of past ceremonies to find ways to keep the show moving at a brisk pace. They say they are looking to nip and tuck unnecessary moments that can turn the show into a marathon.

At an annual lunch honoring Oscar nominees, Zadan and Meron said they identified time-consuming segments that might run only 15 or 30 seconds but which collectively can bog down the show. In some years, the Oscars have run to a ponderous four hours or more.

"You start adding up those 30 seconds, and you have an accumulation of time that you can use for entertainment. So that's what we're doing. We're learning a lot about the things that we don't need in the show," Zadan said. "The main goal is to honor the nominees and the winners. And then beside that, there's a lot of pregnant pauses that you get in the show. ... We've scooped out a lot of those pauses and created more time for performance and entertainment."

Zadan and Meron said they have moments planned that should appeal to all ages and interests, including performances by Adele, Norah Jones and Barbra Streisand and a tribute to the James Bond franchise.

They also are working closely with Oscar host Seth MacFarlane, creator of "Family Guy" and last summer's comedy hit "Ted" who is known for edgy, potty-mouthed humor. The producers said they're not worried that they will need an emergency switch to censor MacFarlane.

"There's no oversized red button" to bleep the broadcast

if MacFarlane goes too far, Meron said. "Seth is Seth, and we love him."

Among those attending the Oscar lunch were acting nominees Denzel Washington, Sally Field, Anne Hathaway, Hugh Jackman, Naomi Watts, Jessica Chastain, Jennifer Lawrence, Bradley Cooper and Robert De Niro.

Also on hand was Ben Affleck, who missed out on acting and directing nominations for his CIA thriller "Argo" but does share a best-picture nomination as a producer on the film.

Affleck said he's thrilled with the awards attention the film has gotten and that he is not sweating his snub as director.

Since he got left out of the directing field on Oscar nominations morning, "Argo" has gone one to dominate other Hollywood awards, including the top prize for Affleck at Saturday's Directors Guild of America honors. "Argo" now has established itself as the Oscar favorite among the nine best-picture contenders, a rarity since films hardly ever win the main award if they are not nominated for best director.

"I just feel so incredibly honored to be nominated as a producer for this movie. To be here at the big party," said Affleck, who shared a screenplay Oscar with Matt Damon for 1997's "Good Will Hunting" but had not been nominated again until this season.

"There are nine amazing movies, any of which could win, any of which would deserve to win if they did. I don't get into worrying too much about who got what and who didn't get what. I mean, I've had many, many, many, many, many years watching from home."

About 160 nominees attended the lunch, an annual rite leading up to Hollywood's big night. The 85th annual Oscars air live Feb. 24 on ABC.



Beyonce performs during the halftime show of the NFL Super Bowl XLVII football game between the San Francisco 49ers and the Baltimore Ravens, Sunday, Feb. 3, 2013, in New Orleans. AP

## No director Oscar nod? No problem says Hooper

By **NICOLE EVATT**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**NEW YORK (AP)**—If director Tom Hooper, who won the best-director Academy Award in 2010 for "The King's Speech," is bothered by not getting a nomination this year for "Les Misérables," he's not letting on.

Instead, the British director says he's relishing the musical's many other accolades, including a Screen Actors Guild Award, three Golden Globe wins, nine BAFTA nominations and eight Oscar nods, including best picture, best actor for Hugh Jackman and best supporting actress for Anne Hathaway. (Hooper was also nominated for a Directors Guild award but lost to Ben Affleck for "Argo" over the weekend.)

Hooper directed the HBO miniseries "John Adams" and the TV drama "Longford." "Les Misérables" is an adaptation of a Broadway musical

based on Victor Hugo's novel.

In a recent interview, he talked about fame, this year's Academy Award nominations and who he'll be rooting for during the Feb. 24th ceremony.

**AP: What are your thoughts on this year's Oscar nominations?**

**Hooper:** I think it's important in awards season to just be incredibly grateful for any recognition that you've already got and to not expect anything beyond it. I was very fortunate two years ago with 'The King's Speech' and this year it's a year of extraordinarily wonderful and beautiful films. So it's a very special year. So I'm just pleased to be part of it.

**AP: Besides 'Les Mis,' what's your pick for best film of 2012?**

**Hooper:** I really loved the Woody Allen film 'To Rome

With Love,' which hasn't had any nominations at all. But I think Woody Allen remains an extraordinary storyteller. ... I mean it's genius. Also, the way he just keeps working, it's a great model for me. I'd love to be at his age and still making a film a year.

**AP: Of the directors in the Oscar race, who are you rooting for?**

**Hooper:** I saw 'Life of Pi' recently and I thought that was an extraordinary directorial and technical accomplishment. The way Ang (Lee) uses 3-D, it feels like you're seeing the medium for the first time. ... The great thing about (awards season) is you take a beat to learn about filmmaking and see what other directors are doing. That's a great way of thinking about the art form once a year in a concentrated way.

**AP: Are you getting recognized more on the street?**

**Hooper:** The joy about being a director is that when your film comes out you possibly get stopped a little bit, but within three months you can go back to being completely anonymous. And then you wait for the next one to come out and you'll have a brief moment where people will recognize you. So it's kind of great because if you're a famous actor that process never stops.

**AP: Is that one reason directing appealed to you?**

**Hooper:** Yeah, I think I chose to be behind the camera because I didn't want that. I always wanted to be the person behind the scenes.

**AP: What's next?**

**Hooper:** Two years ago I managed to not reveal that I was thinking about 'Les Misérables' at all. So I'm going to do the same this time and not reveal anything.



Hooper



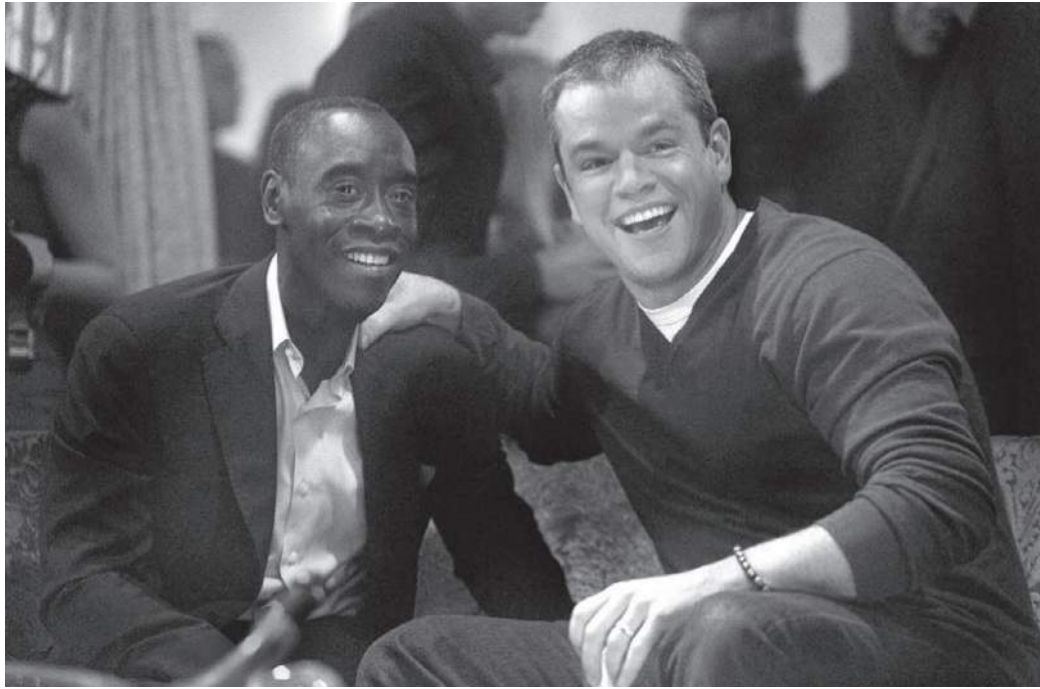
## Damon guest stars on TV comedy 'House of Lies'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Matt Damon is becoming a TV comedy regular.

Showtime said Monday that Damon will guest star next week on "House of Lies." He'll play what the channel called a "maniacal megastar" version of himself.

Last month, Damon staged a mock takeover of Jimmy Kimmel's ABC talk show, tying Kimmel to a chair and acting as host for a night. On NBC's just-ended "30 Rock," Damon appeared in several episodes as boyfriend to Tina Fey's character, Liz Lemon.

On the Sunday, Feb. 10, "House of Lies" episode, Damon seeks help in finding a charity to carry his name. The actor plays opposite "House of Lies" star Don Cheadle, his friend and a cast mate in the "Ocean's Eleven" movie franchise.



This publicity photo released by Showtime shows Don Cheadle, left, as Marty Kaan and Matt Damon, as himself, in "House of Lies," Season 2, Episode 4, on Showtime.

## Sting, Rihanna, Mars, Clarkson to sing at Grammys

NEW YORK (AP)—Sting, Rihanna and Bruno Mars will hit the stage for a special performance at next week's Grammy Awards.

The Recording Academy announced Monday that they

will perform together at the Feb. 10 awards show. Triple nominee Kelly Clarkson will also take the stage.

Beyonce, Prince, Jennifer Lopez and country singer Hunter Hayes will be present-

ers at the Grammys, which will be held at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

Six acts tie for the most nominations with six each, including Ocean, The Black Keys' Dan Auerbach, Kanye West, Jay-Z,

fun. and Mumford & Sons.

Previously announced performers include Ocean, Alicia Keys, Maroon 5, Ed Sheeran, Elton John and fun. Taylor Swift will kick off the show, to be hosted by rapper-actor LL Cool J.

## Shakira shows 1st baby photo, with father Pique

MADRID (AP)—Shakira is sharing the first public photograph of her recently born baby, with father Gerard Pique planting a kiss on his infant son's cheek.

The 36-year-old Colombian singer announced Monday on Twitter that the photo of "my two angels" could be seen on the website of UNICEF. She has urged people to donate to a baby shower on behalf of needy children helped by the U.N. children's agency.

The photo shows Milan, who was born Jan. 22 in Barcelona, apparently sleeping in the arms of

his father. The 25-year-old Pique is an FC Barcelona soccer star.

Milan is the couple's first child.

Shakira has previously asked fans to make donations to UNICEF, helping to provide polio vaccinations and other aid. She works as a goodwill ambassador for the organization.

This undated image released courtesy of singer and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Shakira shows FC Barcelona star Gerard Piqué kissing the cheek of his son Milan, born Jan. 22 in Barcelona.



### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### Michael Kors joins UN food campaign

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The U.N.'s World Food Program has announced a partnership with American fashion designer Michael Kors to raise awareness of global hunger. "I am so proud to be joining the World Food Program in one of the greatest global fights of our time - the battle to end hunger," Kors said. "Millions of people all over the world are struggling to feed themselves, and their families, every day. I want to lend my voice and my efforts to this international cause." Kors will support WFP through a series of awareness-focused campaigns, special events and limited-edition fundraising products created by his namesake company. In March, Kors' fashion brand will launch two unisex watch styles for its "Watch Hunger Stop" campaign. Each watch sold will allow WFP to feed 100 children.

#### Joe Pesci settles dispute over 'Gotti' film payday

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Joe Pesci has settled a lawsuit filed against a company planning a biopic on the Gotti crime family. The Oscar-winner sued Fiore Films in July 2011 claiming the filmmakers reneged on a deal for a \$3 million role in the film and were offering him a lesser part in the project and a lower payday. Pesci's attorney Jessica Trotter confirmed Monday that a

settlement had been reached in the case but said she could not provide any details. Michael Froch, an attorney for Fiore Films, said he could only confirm the case had been dismissed. Pesci's lawsuit stated the actor gained 30 pounds (14 kilograms) in anticipation of playing a childhood friend and enforcer of crime boss John Gotti Sr. The film, "Gotti: In the Shadow of My Father," has not started filming.

#### Fire blower burned during Chicago opera rehearsal

CHICAGO (AP)—A Lyric Opera of Chicago performer was burned after his head caught on fire during a dress rehearsal of a production of "Die Meistersinger von Nuremberg." Wesley Daniel, who plays a fire-blowing stilt walker, suffered burns Monday after putting alcohol in his mouth and attempting to blow fire. Lyric Opera spokeswoman Magda Krance says Daniel was wearing a flameproof costume and mask when the incident occurred. Chicago paramedics took the 24-year-old to Northwestern Memorial Hospital suffering from burns to his face and throat. He was later transferred to Loyola University Medical Center in critical condition. Krance says the fire-blowing effect had been approved by the Chicago Fire Department, but has been removed from future performances.

## Porn star Jeremy likely to be in hospital a while

LOS ANGELES (AP)—

Porn star Ron Jeremy's agent says the prolific actor will likely stay at a Los Angeles hospital a while to recover from an aneurysm near his heart.

Agent Mike Esterman says Jeremy isn't allowed to receive visitors or deliveries following a procedure at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center last week. Esterman says he doesn't expect the 59-year-old to leave the hospital "for some time."

Jeremy had a heavy feeling in his chest and drove himself to the hospital last Wednesday.

One of the best-known names in the porn industry, Jeremy has said he has appeared in more than 2,000 adult films. While officially retired, he still shows up in films and public events, and appeared in the reality TV series "The Surreal Life."



Jeremy

## Couple's lack of intimacy is relationship's only flaw

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

**DEAR ABBY:** My boyfriend and I have been seeing each other for about a year. He was a virgin when we met. Three months into the relationship we had sex. I am 18 and he is 21.

We used to have sex often, but now he is completely uninterested in anything sexual. I feel like he isn't attracted to me anymore, although I haven't changed much since we started dating.

Other than sex, we have a great relationship. We haven't had a single fight, but it hurts my feelings that he doesn't want to have sex with me anymore. What's the solution to our problem?

TEEN IN ST. GEORGE, UTAH

**DEAR TEEN:** Have a frank, non-confrontational talk with your boyfriend and ask him what has changed. It may be that the novelty wore off. He may have a low sex drive, or he may be interested in women only as friends. But you will never know until you ask him. When you do, let him know that whatever his answer is, you care about him and you hope he feels the same way about you.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** My 31-year-old daughter, "Layla," is beautiful, accomplished and earns a good living. She has a lot of friends and always has a boyfriend. She has had both long-term and short-term relationships.

Layla isn't married and hopes to meet the right person. I'm very anxious about it, but this is her life and her choice. People constantly ask, "How's your daughter? Is she seeing anyone?" And when I meet someone for the first time who asks about my children, the second question they ask is, "Is she married?" (They don't ask that about my son.)

This is painful for me. What should I say in response to this omnipresent question?

LAYLA'S MOM

**DEAR MOM:** All you have to do is smile and say: "My daughter is single, loves her job and is quite successful. Now tell me about YOUR children."

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been divorced for eight years. My daughter is learning how to drive. In her mother's car, while under her mother's supervision, she hit their garage door.

My ex believes I should pay half the cost of the new garage door. Also, she did a total upgrade, turning the entrance to the garage into one large door instead of two. I say I shouldn't have to pay. She says if it was someone else's house we would pay. I agree, but it is not, and my ex-wife was in the car—not me.

WHO PAYS? IN CALIFORNIA

**DEAR WHO PAYS?:** She pays. It should not be your responsibility to foot half the bill for an upgrade to your ex's garage door, particularly because she was the one who was with your daughter when the accident occurred. Don't let her bamboozle you.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm not too tall or too short. I'm not overweight or too thin. I never receive comments about my appearance that cause me to be sensitive. My husband doesn't drink, abuse me or stray. I have had no problems through the years with family members, neighbors or co-workers. My grown children are thoughtful, considerate and loving. Even my in-laws love me.

So tell me, did you ever receive a letter such as this?

JOY IN SAN DIEGO

**DEAR JOY:** Not in recent history. And it's probably because people regard my column as a place to dump their troubles rather than share their many blessings, as you have done today.

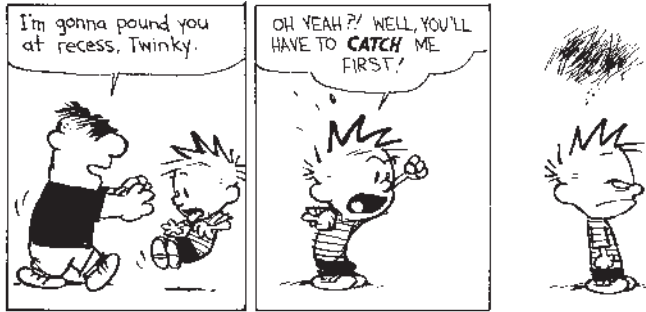
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

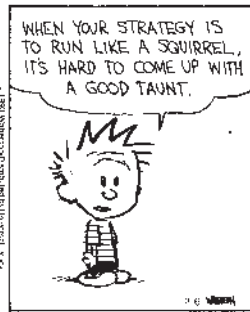


# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

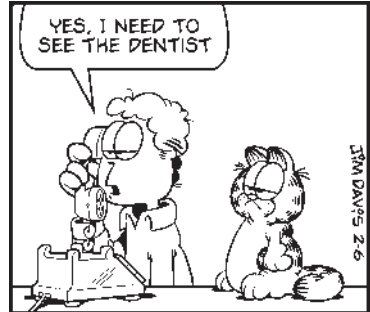


By Bill Waterson



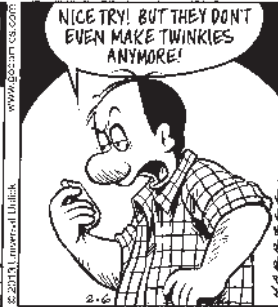
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 — -relief  
4 "Conan" network  
7 Easter flower  
8 Baby's ailment  
10 Traffic cone  
11 Moon mission name  
13 Shake-speare's best-known query  
16 "I'll take that as —"  
17 Carolers' tunes  
18 Vast expanse  
19 Coloring agents  
20 For fear that  
21 Corporations  
23 Paper-hanger's need  
25 Scrawny  
26 Dull sound of impact

**DOWN**

1 "The Hobbit" hero  
2 Lotion additive  
3 Thesaurus entry  
4 "Fiddler on the Roof" star  
5 Hor-schach pictures  
6 Riverbed deposit  
7 Rhone city  
8 Christ-mas candy  
9 Storage area  
10 Bake sale org.  
12 Not just plump  
14 Shad delicacies  
15 Chow down  
19 Parched  
20 "Acid"  
21 Botanist for whom a reddish-purple flower is named  
22 Un-broken  
23 Excellent, in  
24 Self-service diner  
25 Pussy foot?  
26 Carrier  
28 Grind the teeth  
29 Ran easily  
30 Make merry  
31 Barber's concern  
32 Raw rock  
34 Snare on a loom  
35 Worked on a loom

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

R	U	S	H	N	I	P	Z	E	R	O
O	G	E	E	A	C	E	O	R	E	O
A	L	E	E	S	O	A	P	D	I	S
D	I	S	H	P	A	N	L	I	N	T
S	P	A	W	N	P	A	N	C	A	K
I	T	S	J	O	I	G	I	N		
G	A	K	E	M	I	X	F	I	E	N
D	E	B	B	I	N					
O	M	E	G	A	M	I	X	T	A	P
T	A	P	E	D	E	C	K	A	M	E
T	I	E	R	L	I	E	K	I	W	I
O	D	E	S	F	I	R	E	R	S	T

Yesterday's answer 2-6

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Kris Humphries, 28; Kathy Najimy, 56; Natalie Cole, 63; Tom Brokaw, 73

**Happy Birthday:** Strength, courage and discipline will help you get through anything. Protect your physical and emotional wellness by refusing to let anyone take advantage of your kindness. Good fortune can be yours if you work hard to enhance important relationships as well as build a solid home base. Love and romance are in the stars. Your numbers are 5, 17, 20, 24, 27, 33, 42.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Impulsive moves will lead to a mishap or unfortunate situation. Do your best to stick to familiar people and places. Expand an interest that you used to enjoy. Offer suggestions to someone you care about and you will make a difference. ★★★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Take charge and do what needs to be done. Your unique way of viewing an impossible situation will enhance your reputation with acquaintances but may hamper your relationship with someone you love or who depends on you. ★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Trouble will surface, affecting your position if you aren't careful what you say or do regarding work or a colleague. An opportunity to get together with someone can change a decision you have to make regarding your professional direction. ★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Follow through with your plans and you will get the benefits you are hoping for. Changing your residence, spending time with creative people or joining a new group will enhance your

life and lead to options that have eluded you in the past. ★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Cover up mistakes that might cause you sorrow. It's up to you to deal with anyone making accusations directly before a problem has time to escalate. Love is on the rise, but getting involved in a dicey relationship will damage your reputation. ★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You'll be able to attract positive attention from colleagues and your boss if you take action and responsibility for a job that is perplexing and difficult. The extra hours spent will result in experience, knowledge and advancement. Prepare to celebrate. ★★★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You may not agree with what's going on at home or within your immediate family, but being an observer rather than taking sides will be your best alternative. An activity that will get you away from any ongoing turmoil will ease stress. ★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Work alongside people who understand your position and relate to your creative and unique ideals, and you will ensure that you receive the help and dedication required to reach your goals. Don't let a romantic relationship limit your productivity. ★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Tread carefully. You will be misinterpreted or misrepresented if you share your thoughts. Arguments will lead to isolation or an inability to move forward. Accept the inevitable and do your best to keep the peace. ★★★

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Take care of business. This is an ideal time to reassess your position and to apply for a new job or add responsibilities to the position you currently hold. A jealous individual will make you look bad. Respond abruptly but honestly. ★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Don't limit the possibilities. Pick up information or skills that will help you reach your goals. Don't let what others do or say spin out of control. Honesty is the best policy. Pampering will do you good emotionally and physically. ★★★★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** You may have to keep a secret in order to protect your reputation and future prospects. Starting up a relationship with someone from your past will put you in a compromising position. Avoid acting impulsively or responding aggressively. ★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are innovative, expressive, relentless and know how to get your way.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		6	5	3	8	7		
	2						6	
4								
3								
5				2	6	3	9	7
1								5
8								2
	5						7	
		3	4	6	9	5		

Difficulty Level ★★

2/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	5	7	2	4	9	8	6	3
6	9	8	5	7	3	1	2	4
2	3	4	8	6	1	5	7	9
7	6	5	3	8	2	4	9	1
9	2	3	7	1	4	6	5	8
8	4	1	6	9	5	2	3	7
5	8	9	1	3	6	7	4	2
4	1	6	9	2	7	3	8	5
3	7	2	4	5	8	9	1	6

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

A DAY AT THE SPA

Solution: 7 letters

E	S	E	S	L	A	G	I	M	E	H	C	R	T	S
R	S	E	C	S	H	A	P	E	A	G	S	O	F	T
U	L	E	S	N	N	E	S	O	N	E	S	B	I	O
C	E	G	H	U	A	L	L	I	O	T	T	E	G	N
I	E	A	A	T	A	L	R	P	R	L	H	S	C	E
N	P	S	N	E	E	E	A	E	R	U	T	S	O	P
A	E	S	D	E	P	Y	T	B	L	M	P	E	S	A
M	A	A	S	M	R	C	R	M	L	A	C	N	T	R
B	C	M	A	U	H	E	R	H	C	O	X	T	L	W
U	E	P	X	E	A	M	C	K	T	F	O	I	Y	O
T	L	U	A	T	O	L	A	I	C	A	F	I	N	L
T	L	H	D	A	G	O	Y	V	T	B	E	A	G	
O	T	I	E	R	E	W	O	H	S	R	A	D	E	H
H	N	R	P	W	R	E	T	A	W	A	E	S	U	L
G	N	O	I	T	A	I	L	O	F	X	E	S	Y	M

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Balance, Breathing, Calm, Chemicals, Costly, Deals, Exfoliation, Facial, Feel, Fitness, Foam, Gift, Glow, Hands, Health, Help, Hot Tub, Lift, Loofah, Luxury, Manicure, Massage, Modern, Mud Bath, Package, Pampering, Peace, Pool, Posture, Relaxing, Robes, Sauna, Seawater, Service, Shape, Shower, Sleep, Soft, Steam, Stone, Stretch, Type, Uses, Wall, Wrap, Yoga  
**Yesterday's Answer: Midnight**  
If you're having trouble finding words, look for the letters in the puzzle. The words are: Balance, Breathing, Calm, Chemicals, Costly, Deals, Exfoliation, Facial, Feel, Fitness, Foam, Gift, Glow, Hands, Health, Help, Hot Tub, Lift, Loofah, Luxury, Manicure, Massage, Modern, Mud Bath, Package, Pampering, Peace, Pool, Posture, Relaxing, Robes, Sauna, Seawater, Service, Shape, Shower, Sleep, Soft, Steam, Stone, Stretch, Type, Uses, Wall, Wrap, Yoga  
Yesterday's Answer: Midnight

## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



# CLASSIFIED ADS



WHATZIT Solution: Smart cookie

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

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• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### EMPLOYMENT

Needed Admin Assistant minimum 5 yrs experience, organized, Excel, Word, PowerPoint. Bookkeeping, Quickbooks a plus. Please call N15Architects 233-5115

2 CAD operators, minimum 5 yrs exp, ACAD v2012: one Public Utilities-Water & Wastewater; one CAD architect w degree. Please call N15Architects 233-5115

Building Maintenance (1) – with experience & knowledge on electrical and carpentry work. Send resume to K. Young Corporation. P.O. Box 503275, Tel. 233-9876.

1 Waiter/Waitress: \$5.05/hr. High school diploma and ability to take orders in Korean required. Email resume to hankyung@hanmi-saipan.com.

### EMPLOYMENT

(1) Admin Assistant. \$5.55 per hour. 2 years experience. Call Marianas Living.com at 234-2583.

(2) Jewelry Appraiser – Must have 4-5 years experience in jewelry appraisal, honest and trustworthy. Must be familiar with Microsoft word, excel and Peachtree. Applicants must mail resume with valid identifications, police clearance and previous employment certifications to PLATINUM INC. PMB 326 PPP BOX 10000, Saipan, MP 96950

1-Accountant Bookkeeper/Computer Operator-\$5.55 w/ 6 yrs exp & knowledge in Acctng & Taxes. Japanese Foods import/export docs related. Mail resume to SPE Saipan Box 502696 Saipan MP 96950

### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Chalan Kiya, 3 bdrm-2 bath duplex. Section 8 accepted. \$700 negotiable. No deposit Call Alex 285-7612

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nighttime security. \$450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$450-\$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 1-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$250/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. \$600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. \$550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

**IPod & iPhone Repair**  
We now unlock iPhone's and any Smart Phones around the world  
Please call **233-5641**  
Open: Monday-Saturday 9:00am - 9:00pm

**FOR SALE**  
**TWINKLE BRITE WATER COMPANY**  
LOCATED IN SAN ANTONIO  
FOR MORE INFO CALL 285-0478

"My wish is to have my own PC with a DVD player and CD burner!"

**25** years of making wishes of eligible children with life-threatening illnesses come true!

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Email: mawiguam@ite.net  
www.wish.org  
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune

### Inviting Talent

We are building a dynamic, passionate and customer-focused team and are inviting applicants for the following positions:

Chef de Partie	Pianist
Chef de Cuisine	Gardener
Team Leader - Repair & Maintenance	Team Leader - Spa
Housekeeping Manager	Team Leader - Club Elan
Waitstaff	Team Leader - Regency Club
Team Leader - Security	Team Leader - Bell Service
Seamstress / Seamster	

Interested candidates may apply online at [saipan.regency.hyatt.com](http://saipan.regency.hyatt.com)  
Click on "Careers at this hotel."

**HYATT REGENCY**

**HYATT REGENCY SAIPAN**  
P.O. BOX 5087 CHRB, SAIPAN, MP 96950  
[SAIPAN.REGENCY.HYATT.COM](http://SAIPAN.REGENCY.HYATT.COM)

# WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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Designed by Universal Uclick

[www.facebook.com/dingbatgames](http://www.facebook.com/dingbatgames)

Find today's solution in classified section

**St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.**  
**(04) Hemodialysis Technician**

- Certificate from a Junior college/Technical School in health care.
- Attended a hemodialysis-training program.
- Three year hemodialysis experienced-Preferred.
- Must be CCHT certified by the Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission.
- English Language skills-Proficient in spoken, written and comprehension.
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
- In-Service train with Baxter Phoenix Machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater Bicarbonate distribution system.
- Flexible with time schedule.

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up applications at St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670)234-2903 ext. 124.

**St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.**  
**(01) NURSE SUPERVISOR**

- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License.
- Attended a hemodialysis training program and management of hemodialysis inpatient and outpatient care.
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
- At least four years hemodialysis experience and plus three year as a charge nurse in dialysis.
- English Language skill-Proficient in spoken, written and comprehension.
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
- Certified Nephrology Nurse-(CNN) Preferred.
- In-service train with Baxter Phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.
- Flexible with time schedule.

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan or for more information, please call Judy Arriola at 234-2903 ext. 124.



Job Vacancy Announcement  
**SUNLEADER CO., LTD.**  
**(2) SALES REPRESENTATIVE**  
~with 3-5 years experience  
~with knowledge in peach tree acctng.  
For more information  
please call 233-3222 or 989-6694

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Assistant Project Manager**  
• 2-3 years work experience – construction  
• Engineering graduate  
Please send resume to:  
**Triple "L" Construction, Inc.**  
Fax no. 234-5104

**Hong Ye Trading Company LTD.**  
P.O. Box 502997 Saipan, MP 96950  
Job Vacancy Announcement  
**(1) Estimator for Construction**  
Minimum of 5yrs experience. High School graduate. Salary \$5.55/hr. If interested, call 235-8748.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT  
**SASAMO USA CORPORATION**  
**(1) TEACHER**  
*Min. of 4 yrs experience, 4 yrs college degree, commanding of English and Korean, provide own transportation, flexible work hours.*  
Send resume to [tnxod98@naver.com](mailto:tnxod98@naver.com)

**HOUSE FOR RENT**  
4 Bedroom, 2 Storey Bldg  
with 2 bathroom & 1 small office space.  
Located in Papago  
Please call **Ellen Delos Santos** at 285-2847  
Serious Callers Only

**South Pacific Lumber Co.**  
➤ **Warehouse Space & Equipment Rental/Sales**  
➤ **Metal Roofing Panels for Sale**  
Located in Lower Base (Industrial Area)  
For inquiries, please call 989-8809

**Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School**  
Is requesting applicants for:

**Accountant/Business Manager (1)**  
■ Minimum 5 years experience in Seventh-day Adventist School;  
■ Minimum 5 years experience in a managerial capacity;  
■ Bachelor's degree in accounting;  
■ Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;  
■ Knowledge in Quickbooks accounting software preferred;  
■ Minimum 2 years work experience in a Christian school;

**Elementary Teacher (1)**  
■ Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education required;  
■ NAD denominational degree preferred;  
■ Must be qualified to teach elementary English;  
■ Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;  
■ Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;  
■ Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school

**Pre-School Teachers (3)**  
■ Bachelor's degree required;  
■ Two years of early childhood teaching experience required;  
■ Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;  
■ Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;  
■ Minimum 2 years teaching experience in a Christian school;

**Pre-School Assistant Teacher**  
■ Minimum 2 years of college required;  
■ Two years of early childhood classroom teaching experience required;  
■ Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;  
■ Must be willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures;

Send resumes to:  
**Saipan SDA School Principal**  
P.O. Box 501063 Saipan, MP 96950

Looking for a way to tell everyone about your business?  
**YOU'RE LOOKING AT IT!**  
Saipan Tribune  
**235-6397**

Milne's Realty Management  
Job Vacancy Announcement  
Closing Date: February 13, 2013  
Administrative Assistant (1) - \$5.55/hour  
Keeps an accurate filing records of lease agreements, assignments of lease, warranty deeds and cancellation of lease. Maintain records of deadlines. Do other related work as per instructions of the employer. Can work with dog at the office. Interested applicants may call 234-3146

**VACANCY**  
**J.C. Tenorio Ent, Inc., is currently seeking for qualified candidates to fill the following position**  
**COOK**  
Please apply in person at the  
**J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc.**  
**Human Resources Office**  
**Joeten Center, Susupe**  
**(NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE)**

**Sheu's Brothers Holding Co. LTD**  
P.O. Box 502997 Saipan, MP 96950  
**Vacancy Announcement for US workers'**  
**1-Inventory Clerk**  
3 yrs experience. Flexible working hours. Japanese/Chinese speaking a plus. Salary \$5.55/hr. Call 235-6128.

JWS AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION, INC.  
Immediate Job Vacancy  
**ONE (1) SALES ENGINEER**  
• Sells HVACR mechanical, electrical and related equipment, parts and supplies.  
• Prepares estimates on equipments, parts, supplies, or services as needed.  
• Knowledgeable in interpreting plans & specifications and prepare shop drawings.  
*Knowledgeable in the following equipment:*  
• Split-type air conditioners  
• Residential and commercial ducted package and split units  
• Refrigeration equipment, cool rooms and ice machines  
E-mail resume to:  
[jwssaipan@pticom.com](mailto:jwssaipan@pticom.com) or  
[tonys.jwssaipan@pticom.com](mailto:tonys.jwssaipan@pticom.com)

**PRADA**  
TRS SAIPAN  
Travel Retail Stores  
DFS Galleria  
Is looking for qualified applicants to fill the following positions:  
**SALES ASSOCIATE**  
Qualified individual will report to the Store Manager and must possess the following:  
1 year minimum luxury retail experience required  
Mandarin Chinese, Japanese and Korean language preferred  
Excellent Customer Service skills  
Ability to work flexible hours  
Commitment to complete required training programs  
High school graduate or GED equivalent  
We offer attractive remuneration package to commensurate with qualifications and experience. For consideration, please apply in person or forward your detailed resume to:  
TRS SAIPAN  
PRADA Boutique  
DES Galleria, Beach Road  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel 233-5009 • Fax 233-5009  
Deadline for submission of application or resume is February 13, 2013.  
Successful candidates must submit to Drug & Alcohol Test  
Police and Court Clearance required with submission of application.  
We are an EEO Employer

**MARFEGA TRADING CO., INC.**  
P.O. Box 502356 CK. Saipan, MP 96950  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER  
**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Human Resource Specialist**  
■ Maintain employment records, Explain HR policies & procedures.  
■ Recruitment, Placement & Training of employees, Inform job applicants of details of duties & responsibilities, schedules, compensation & benefits.  
■ Address employee relations issue i.e. work, complaints & other employee concerns.  
■ Maintain & updates human resource document, such as organizational chart, employee handbooks, evaluation forms. Confer with management to develop or implement personnel policies or procedures.  
■ Renewal of business permits/licenses including processing of employment permits.  
■ Labor relations, coordination & negotiations.  
■ Other duties that may be assigned.  
**REQUIREMENTS/QUALIFICATIONS:**  
■ Graduate of Behavioral Science (BS Psychology/BS Management or its equivalent)  
■ With at least two (2) years hands on experience in all facets of HR  
■ Familiar with Labor laws, EEO, ADA (both local and provisions of Federal laws pertaining to Employment)  
■ Computer literate, can operate office equipment like fax machines, photocopier, scanner, 10-key calculators.  
*Applicants must be fully qualified, with valid Police & Health Clearance, clean driver's record, willing to work flexible hours, multi tasking & assigned in other locations of the company. Salary is \$5.55-\$5.75 per hour; 32 hours per week, Bi-weekly payroll.*  
*For inquiry or interview please contact Ms. Aileen Arnold-Soriano at 288-0373*  
Fax your resume at (670) 288-0389 or email at [islandereprocess@yahoo.com](mailto:islandereprocess@yahoo.com)

S P O R T S

Pacers tie up Bulls in Central with 111-101 win

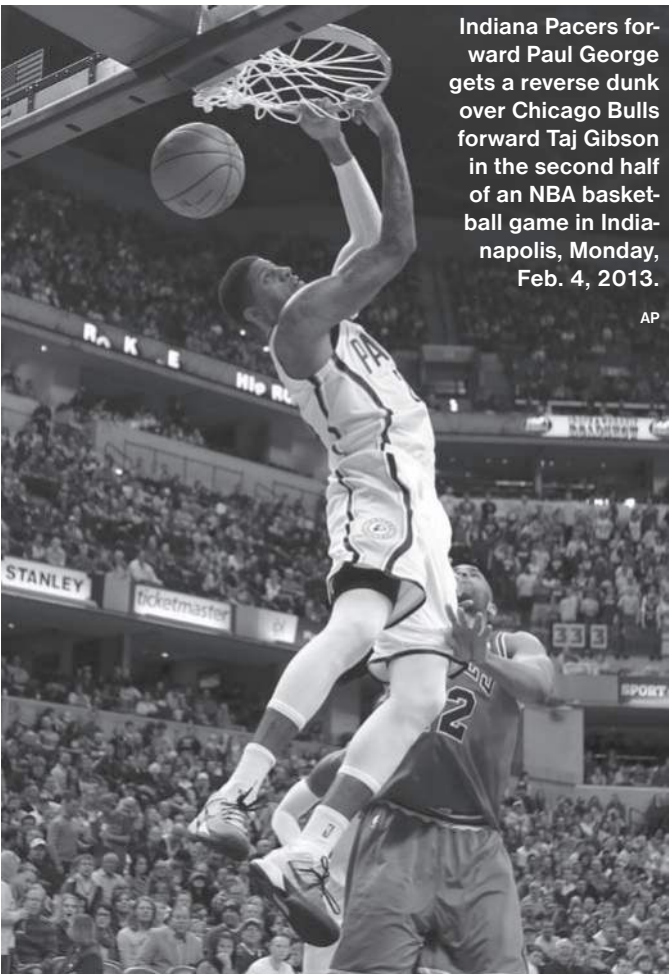


**INDIANAPOLIS** (AP)—David West scored 29 points and Paul George had 21 points, 11 rebounds and five assists, leading Indiana past short-handed Chicago 111-101 on Monday night for a share of the Central Division lead.

The Pacers have won three straight and extended their home winning streak to 14, matching the team's longest since 2002-03.

Marco Belinelli had a season-high 24 points and Nate Robinson had 19 to lead the Bulls, who lost for only the third time in nine games. The Bulls played again without starting guards Kirk Hinrich (elbow), Derrick Rose (knee) and center Joakim Noah (foot). The Bulls also survived a scare when Belinelli crashed to the floor clutching his right ankle late in the first quarter.

Indiana seized control with a 15-4 run in the third quarter that made it 79-67 with 4:13 to go. Chicago never got closer than four the rest of the way.



Indiana Pacers forward Paul George gets a reverse dunk over Chicago Bulls forward Taj Gibson in the second half of an NBA basketball game in Indianapolis, Monday, Feb. 4, 2013.

AP

**Wizards 98, Clippers 90**

In Washington, Martell Webster scored 21 points, and Washington broke a four-game losing streak against a Los Angeles team missing Blake Griffin and Chris Paul.

With Griffin nursing a strained left hamstring and Paul still dealing with a bruised right kneecap, the Wizards pulled away with a 7-0 run late in the fourth quarter, spurred by a pair of big offensive rebounds by Nene.

Nene and Garrett Temple scored 15 points apiece, Emeka Okafor grabbed 14 rebounds, and John Wall had 13 points and eight assists for the Wizards, who entered the game tied with the Charlotte Bobcats for the worst record in the NBA.

Jamal Crawford scored 28 points, and DeAndre Jordan had a career-high 22 rebounds for the Clippers.

**Heat 99, Bobcats 94**

In Miami, LeBron James scored 31 points and Chris Bosh added 23 to lead Miami to its 10th consecutive victory over Charlotte.

Dwyane Wade had 20 points and 12 rebounds for the Heat, who have won nine of their last 10 at home. James was 13 for 14 from the field, for a career-best 93 percent shooting. The Heat improved to 19-3 on their home floor.

Ramon Sessions scored 18 points for Charlotte, which lost its fourth in a row and 12th in the last 14. Ben Gordon had 16 points as six Bobcats players scored in double digits.

**Knicks 99, Pistons 85**

In New York, Tyson Chandler tied a franchise record with his third straight 20-rebound game, Carmelo Anthony scored 27 points, and New York cruised to its fifth consecutive victory.

In a game that was decided early, Chandler played long enough to grab his 20th rebound midway through the fourth quarter. After grabbing 20 in victories on Friday and Saturday night, he became the first Knicks player to have 20 in three straight games since Hall of Famer Willis Reed in December 1969.

Newly acquired Jose Calderon scored 15 points in his Detroit debut, while Greg Monroe had 13 points and 10 rebounds.

**Thunder 112, Mavericks 91**

In Oklahoma City, Russell Westbrook scored 24 points, Kevin Durant had 19 points and 10 rebounds, and Oklahoma City avoided a third straight overtime game against Dallas.

The Mavericks had tied the first two meetings this season with 3-pointers at the very end, but there was no such drama the third time around.

Oklahoma City led by at least 20 throughout the second half, winning for the 10th time in 11 meetings between the teams since Dallas beat the Thunder in the 2011 Western Conference finals on its way to the NBA championship. That includes a four-game sweep of the Mavs in the first round of last year's playoffs.

**Trail Blazers 100, Timberwolves 98**

In Minneapolis, LaMarcus Aldridge had 25 points and 13 rebounds to help Portland avoid a late collapse against Minnesota.

Wes Matthews scored 22 points and Damon Lillard added 21 points for the Blazers, but they each had five of the team's season-high 28 turnovers. The Blazers never trailed in the game, but the Wolves had a chance to tie or win in the end.

Ricky Rubio swung the ball to Dante Cunningham, whose 19-footer fell short.

Rubio had 10 of his career-high-tying 14 assists in the fourth quarter and finished with a season-high 15 points in a season-high 34 minutes. Cunningham scored a career-high 23 points on 11 for 17 shooting, and J.J. Barea added 17 points.

**Jazz 98, Kings 91 OT**

In Salt Lake City, Randy Foye had 20 points, including six in overtime, and Utah defeated Sacramento in overtime.

Paul Millsap added 14, with a key block, step-back jumper and rebound in the extra session for the Jazz, who used an 8-0 fourth-quarter run to take the lead with 2:40 left in regulation.

Utah had a chance to win it in regulation, but big man Al Jefferson shot an air ball 3-pointer at the buzzer.

Jason Thompson led the Kings with a season-high 23 points, and Tyreke Evans added 20 but had a key turnover in overtime.

Sacramento played the second half without leading scorer DeMarcus Cousins, who was ejected for arguing with officials at midcourt during the halftime break.

**76ers 78, Magic 61**

In Philadelphia, Spencer Hawes had 21 points and 14 rebounds and Jrue Holiday had 13 points and 14 assists to lead Philadelphia to its third straight win.

Nick Young had 15 points for the Sixers, who won three straight games for the first time since the final three games of November.

Orlando listed six players as inactive in its 10th straight loss. E'Twaun Moore had 18 points and Nik Vucevic grabbed 14 rebounds.



# Rivera says Yankees will support Rodriguez



**NEW YORK**  
(AP)—Sit-

ting on a stage with their manager and GM during a fundraiser, Mariano Rivera and Mark Teixeira vowed to welcome Alex Rodriguez back to the New York Yankees following the latest drug allegations against the New York Yankees star.

Rodriguez is recovering from hip surgery expected to sideline him until at least the All-Star break. The *Miami New Times* reported last week that Rodriguez is included in records the paper claims show he bought performance-enhancing drugs from a defunct Florida anti-aging clinic. Rodriguez denied the charges.

"We have to embrace him. He's our teammate," Rivera said.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said the team will wait for Major League Baseball to determine the truthfulness of the allegations, and manager Joe Girardi said there's no way to tell whether the All-Star third baseman will regain his offensive production following hip surgery.

"This involves some very nasty facts," Cashman told about 150 fans at the Hard Rock Cafe in Times Square. "There needs to be patience here as they thoroughly investigate this to determine the accuracy or inaccuracy, or where are there accuracies or inaccuracies in the story, and see if we can come up with what is fact and what are provable facts."

"Everybody, they deserve due process and right now you have



In this Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012 file photo, New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez takes batting practice before Game 4 of the American League championship series against the Detroit Tigers, in Detroit. AP

just a very nasty story," Cashman added. "We'll just have to wait and let it all play out."

Rodriguez was among a half-dozen major leaguers accused in the report by the alternative weekly and could face a 50-game suspension. He admitted four years ago that he used PEDs while with the Texas Rangers from 2001-03, before MLB and the union started their joint drug program. He has denied using PEDs since.

"He wears that uniform, that

New York Yankees uniform, and I have to go out and be there for him," Rivera said. "Besides, he's my friend and I will respect and wait for him to give you the answer that you want."

Teixeira echoed Rivera's thoughts.

"Just like Mo said, you support your family," the first baseman said.

Teixeira spoke out against PEDs when asked about the rejection of all candidates in this year's Hall of Fame vote, a

group that included seven-time MVP Barry Bonds and seven-time Cy Young Award winner Roger Clemens.

"As a sport, we've stood up and said enough is enough because there is no place for steroids in sports," Teixeira said to applause. "It's a little bit embarrassing to go up to somebody and have people talk about baseball, and the first thing they talk about is steroids. And I'm tired of it, frankly. So for the Hall of Fame, the No. 1 high-

light of anyone's career and what we all strive to become, for Hall of Fame voters to stand up and make a stand, I think that is a positive thing."

Even before last week's report, Rodriguez had lived through a tumultuous offseason following his repeated benching for lack of production during last year's playoffs. A-Rod, who turns 38 in July, has not played a full season since 2007 because of injuries. It's not clear whether he will report to spring training with the Yankees in Tampa, Fla.

"I'm not sure exactly where he'll be from a rehab standpoint and where they feel the best place for him to be," Girardi said.

He will watch Rodriguez's progress from surgery but won't predict whether A-Rod will regain the offensive form that led to three AL MVP

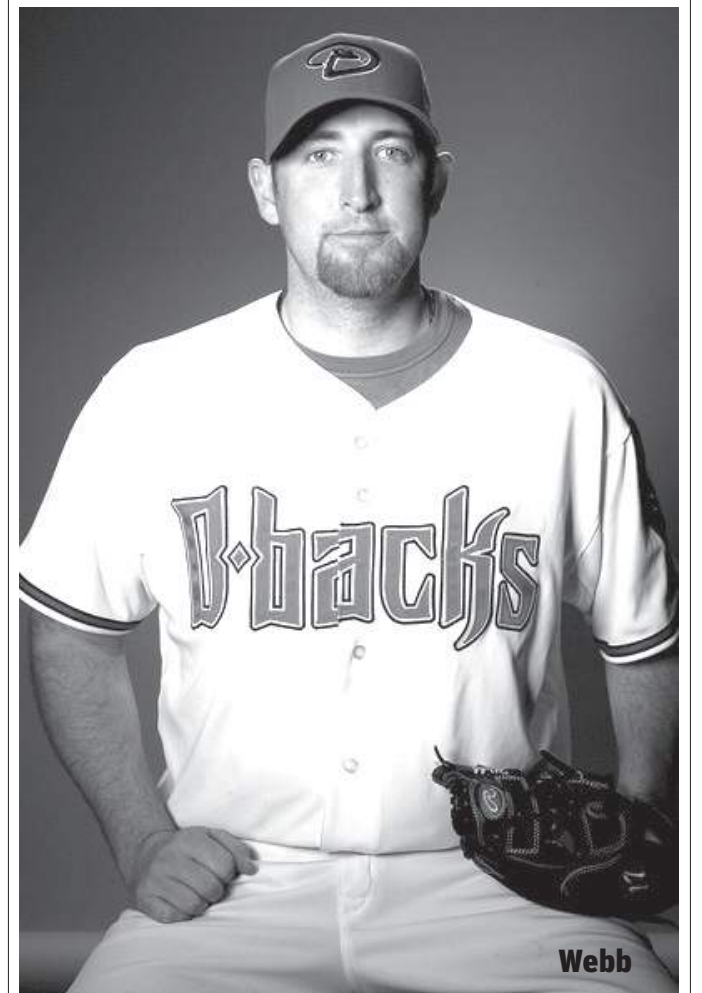
awards and 647 home runs - 115 shy of tying Barry Bonds' career record.

"We're hopeful and we're confident that he's going to come back healthy but you've got to find out," Girardi said. "There's no guarantees when they cut you."

Rivera, the career saves leader, missed most of last season after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee while tracking down a fly ball during batting practice in Kansas City on May 3. Now 43, he expects to be on his normal spring training routine. He joked about his disdain for exhibition road games in Florida.

"For me it's a challenge, but I can't wait to get there," he said. "I'm going to start sweating and running and doing all that stuff, getting in the outfield. You won't see the last of me there."

## 2006 Cy Young winner Brandon Webb retires



## Athletics acquire Jed Lowrie from Astros

**OAKLAND, Calif.** (AP)—The Oakland Athletics acquired infielder Jed Lowrie and right-hander Fernando Rodriguez from the Houston Astros for first baseman Chris Carter and two minor leaguers on Monday.

Right-hander Brad Peacock and catcher Max Stassi also went to Houston in the deal between franchises that will be playing in the same division for the first time following the Astros' move from the NL Central to the AL West in 2013.

Lowrie batted .244 with 16 homers and 42 RBIs in 97 games with Houston, missing two months with ankle and thumb injuries. Despite the limited playing time, Lowrie tied for the fourth most homers among all shortstops last year.

Oakland general manager Billy Beane said he has had interest in Lowrie for years and was glad to be able to get the chance to add him to the roster.

"He always had good power for a guy in the middle of the infield," Beane said. "It's just hard to find that kind of power from a guy who can play the middle of the infield and doing it as a switch-hitter."

Lowrie played exclusively at shortstop last season but previ-

ously played first, second and third base as well during his four years with the Boston Red Sox. The A's had previously signed Japanese shortstop Hiroyuki Nakajima to a \$6.5 million, two-year contract.

Nakajima starts off as the shortstop but Beane said there will be plenty of chances for Lowrie to play all over the infield.

"I feel most comfortable at shortstop," Lowrie said. "But I've played some second base in my career as well. I'm certainly more comfortable up the middle than anywhere else on the diamond. But I've had some experience at third base."

Lowrie, who played his college ball at nearby Stanford, agreed to a \$2.4 million salary to avoid arbitration. The Astros are likely to have the lowest payroll in the majors in 2013.

The move sends Lowrie from a rebuilding franchise that had a major league-worst 107 losses last season to a young club coming off a surprising division title in 2012 and one with high hopes for this season.

"Considering everyone had pegged either the Rangers or Angels to win it, it was a great story to watch from a distance," Lowrie said. "It's a group of

young guys that obviously knows how to win. Hopefully, we'll just continue to get better."

Rodriguez went 2-10 with a 5.37 ERA in 71 relief appearances last year. He struck out 78 batters in 70 1-3 innings. Despite the poor record and high ERA, Beane sees plenty to like from the hard-throwing Rodriguez.

"He's got a real big arm," Beane said. "His record, his ERA are probably a little bit misleading. He's another guy to add to our bullpen depth, which was one of our strengths last year. We felt like we were giving them a pretty good package. This addition helped us get over the finish line."

Carter batted .239 with 16 homers and 39 RBIs in 67 games with Oakland last year, platooning at first base with left-handed hitting Brandon Moss. He provides needed power for the Astros and could thrive at hitter-friendly Minute Maid Park.

Beane said it was difficult to part with a player like Carter who twice won the award as the organization's top minor leaguer, but he saw little opportunity for Carter to get substantial at-bats with four regular outfielders who would rotate at

designated hitter and Brandon Moss likely getting most of the first base at-bats against right-handed pitching.

Lowrie provided much more immediate help.

"Given where this club finished last year and that we have the chance to compete this year we wanted to do whatever we could to help us out right now," Beane said.

Peacock was acquired by Oakland from Washington in the deal that sent Gio Gonzalez to the Nationals following the 2011 season. After going 15-3 with a 2.39 ERA in the minors in his final year in the Nationals system, Peacock was 12-9 with a 6.01 ERA at Triple-A Sacramento last season. He was ranked as Oakland's top pitching prospect for 2013 by Baseball America.

The 21-year-old Stassi batted .268 with 15 homers and 45 RBIs in 84 games at Class A Stockton in 2012 and was considered Oakland's top catching prospect.

"This trade gives us power, pitching and catching," Astros general manager Jeff Luhnow said in a statement. "Three valuable commodities that will help improve our organization."

Brandon Webb, who won the NL Cy Young Award in 2006 and was one of the top pitchers in baseball before being beset by arm injuries, is retiring.

The right-hander's agents, Mike Montana and Jonathan Maurer of Millennium Sports Management, confirmed Monday night that Webb was calling it a career.

"He has worked so hard over the past three years to come back but his shoulder just wouldn't allow it to happen," Montana said in an email. "He's a first class guy with a great family that he'll get to spend more time with now."

The 33-year-old Webb hasn't pitched in the majors

since 2009 because of shoulder problems. He came up with Arizona in 2003 and had a 2.84 ERA in 180 innings. He pitched more than 200 innings each of the next five seasons for the Diamondbacks, using his heavy sinker to win a Cy Young and earn three All-Star selections. He finished second in the Cy Young voting in both 2007 and '08, winning a total of 40 games those seasons.

He threw four innings with the Diamondbacks in 2009, leaving his first start of the season with an aching shoulder and missing the rest of the season. In 2011, he signed with the Texas Rangers, but never pitched in a regular-season game. (AP)



# Superdome officials worried about a power outage



**NEW ORLEANS (AP)**—

The cause of a 34-minute blackout at the Super Bowl remains under investigation, but public records released Monday show that Superdome officials were worried about a power outage several months before the big game.

An Oct. 15 memo released by the Louisiana Stadium & Exposition District, which oversees the Superdome, says tests on the dome's electrical feeders showed they had "some decay and a chance of failure."

Entergy New Orleans, the company that supplies the stadium with power, and the structure's engineering staff "had concerns regarding the reliability of the Dome service from Entergy's connection point to the Dome," the memo says. Those concerns were due in part to "circumstances that have previously occurred with the electrical service regarding transient spikes and loads."

The memo also cites 2011 blackouts that struck Candlestick Park, where the San Francisco 49ers were playing a nationally televised Monday night football game, as a reason for ordering the tests.

The board later authorized spending nearly \$1 million on Superdome improvements, including more than \$600,000 for upgrading the dome's electrical feeder cable system.

"As discussed in previous board meetings, this enhancement is necessary to maintain both the Superdome and the New Orleans Arena as top tier facilities, and to ensure that we do not experience any electrical issues during the Super Bowl," says a LSED document dated Dec. 19.

An attorney for the state board that oversees the Superdome said the blackout did not appear to be related to the replacement in December of electrical equipment connecting the stadium to Entergy. Officials with the utility and the Superdome noted that an NFL game, the Sugar Bowl and another bowl game were played there in recent weeks with no apparent problems.

The exact cause of Sunday night's blackout—and who's to blame—remained unclear late Monday, though a couple of potential culprits had been ruled out.

It wasn't Beyonce's electrifying halftime performance, according to Doug Thornton, manager of the state-owned Superdome, since the singer had her own generator. And it apparently wasn't a case of too much demand for power. Meters showed the 76,000-seat stadium was drawing no more electricity than it does during a typical New Orleans Saints game, Thornton said.

The lights-out game Sunday proved an embarrassment for the Big Easy just when it was hoping to show the rest of the world how far it has come since Hurricane



Fans and members of the Baltimore Ravens and the San Francisco 49ers wait for power to return in the Superdome during an outage in the second half of the NFL Super Bowl XLVII football game, Sunday, Feb. 3, 2013, in New Orleans.

AP

Katrina in 2005. But many fans and residents were forgiving, and officials expressed confidence that the episode wouldn't hurt the city's hopes of hosting the championship again.

To New Orleans' great relief, NFL Commissioner Roger

Goodell said the city did a "terrific" job hosting its first pro football championship in the post-Hurricane Katrina era, and added: "I fully expect that we will be back here for Super Bowls."

Fans watching from their living rooms weren't deterred,

either. An estimated 108.4 million television viewers saw the Baltimore Ravens beat the San Francisco 49ers 34-31, making it the third most-viewed program in television history. Both the 2010 and 2011 games hit the 111 million mark.

The problem that caused the outage was believed to have happened around the spot where a line that feeds current from Entergy New Orleans connects with the Superdome's electrical system, officials said. But whether the fault lay with the

## NFL says it was ready with backup power system

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)**—NFL officials were sure they'd get the Super Bowl finished on Sunday night.

And if they couldn't, the league championship still would not have ended where it temporarily stopped, with less than two minutes gone in the third quarter. The Lombardi Trophy goes to the winner after 60 minutes, not 32.

Commissioner Roger Goodell said Monday the Superdome had a backup power system which was about to be used during the Super Bowl's electrical outage. It wasn't needed because power started coming back at that time, he said.

Superdome and utility officials were still trying to nail down the precise cause of the 34-minute Super Bowl blackout, but league officials said that, because of the backup system, the game wasn't in danger of being postponed.

"That was not a consideration last night," NFL vice president of business operations Eric Grubman said at a news conference Monday. "That is not what was at play."

Goodell was sitting with New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie during the game. The Meadowlands will host next year's Super Bowl.

"We already had the conversation," Goodell said about avoiding a repeat of the blackout. "This is clearly something that can be fixed, and it's clearly something that we can prepare for. And we will."

Grubman said Goodell has the "sole authority" to enforce any contingency plans, and was in perfect position to do so Sunday night.

"He was there and he had the full reports," Grubman said. "We were quickly able to determine we did not have a situation that would cause a permanent interruption in the game. There were no safety issues, we had multiple equipment and sources of power."

And if they didn't?

While declining to be specific, Grubman said the league has "backup plans" for continuing the game. Those plans all focus on playing the full 60 minutes, regardless of whether it is the same day or on another day.

So the Ravens, ahead 28-6 at the time of the partial blackout, wouldn't have simply been declared the winners. This isn't baseball, where half a game is considered official.

In the end, Baltimore still won, beating San Francisco 34-31. The momentum shifted tremendously after the lights went back on, however, with the 49ers rallying to make it 31-29 at one point in the fourth quarter, and missing a 2-point conversion pass that would have tied it.

Having to replay—or finish—the Super Bowl on another day would clearly have been a major headache for the NFL.

The Super Bowl invariably is the highest-rated television show of the year. Playing it any

other time but Sunday evening would create trouble for the networks.

There also are travel and hotel considerations because the game is played at a neutral site, attracting thousands of visitors to the host city.

Most importantly, there are health and safety concerns. Making teams play a Thursday night game after one on Sunday has been heavily criticized by the players' union. A quick turnaround, such as finishing the Super Bowl on Monday, could be dangerous.

Plus, there are competitive balance decisions to weigh. What might be fair to one team could be a hindrance for another.

Several major sports, including the NFL, have dealt with emergencies that forced schedule changes. Just last year, the Daytona 500 was moved from Sunday afternoon to Monday night because of rain. But NASCAR often is forced to move races due to bad weather. Same with golf tournaments, and if the USGA's major events are not won on Sunday, they end the next day with an 18-hole playoff.

Baseball, of course, is vulnerable to rainouts, too.

In the 2008 World Series, Game 5 at Philadelphia was stopped in the sixth inning because of rain with the Phillies and Tampa Bay tied at 2. The storms stuck around, and when play resumed two days later, the Phillies won the game and

clinched the championship.

In the 1989 World Series, an earthquake rattled Candlestick Park minutes before the San Francisco Giants were set to host Oakland in Game 3. The Series resumed 10 days later, and the Athletics won twice to complete a sweep.

In 1988, the NHL dealt with a blackout very similar to what happened in the Superdome on Sunday night.

Game 4 of the Stanley Cup finals between the Bruins and Oilers in Boston was tied 3-3 in the second period. Edmonton led the series 3-0.

A power outage eventually forced cancellation of the game, and the teams headed back to Edmonton for the next game, as previously scheduled. The Oilers completed their sweep 6-3 at home.

The other matchup that compares to the Super Bowl is the World Cup final at the end of the monthlong soccer tournament. FIFA has provisions for a replay, but in the era of penalty-kick shootouts, that won't happen—unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Such as a power failure.

So FIFA demands that local organizers to ensure that every stadium has an emergency independent power generator.

The NFL requires its stadiums to comply with all applicable local building codes and laws, which normally require the kind of backup system the Superdome has.

utility or with the Superdome was not clear.

Determining the cause will probably take days, according to Dennis Dawsey, a vice president for distribution and transmission for Entergy. He said the makers of some of the switching gear have been brought in to help figure out what happened.

The blackout came after a nearly flawless week of activity for football fans in New Orleans leading up to the big game.

"I hope that's not what they'll remember about this Super Bowl," French Quarter artist Gloria Wallis said. "I hope that what they'll remember is they had a great time here and that they were welcomed here."

Ravens fan Antonio Prezioso, a Baltimore native who went to the game with his 11-year-old son, said the outage just extended the experience.

"The more time we could spend at the game was a good thing, as long as it ended the way it did," he said, laughing.

The city last hosted the Super Bowl in 2002, and officials were hoping this would serve as the ultimate showcase for the city's recovery since Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The storm tore holes in the roof of the Superdome and caused water damage to its electrical systems, and more than \$330 million was spent repairing and upgrading the stadium.

Sunday's Super Bowl was New Orleans' 10th as host, and officials plan to make a bid for an 11th in 2018.

Mayor Mitch Landrieu told WWL-AM on Monday that the outage won't hurt the city's chances, and he joked that the game got better after the blackout: "People were leaving and the game was getting boring, so we had to do a little something to spice it up."

The chairwoman of the New Orleans City Council's Utility Committee has called an emergency meeting for Friday to discuss the power outage.

Jarvis DeBerry, a columnist for nola.com and The Times-Picayune, wrote that the power outage gave the media "an opportunity to laugh at the apparent ineptitude or suggest that the ghosts of Hurricane Katrina were haunting the Superdome."

"That's not the kind of attention the city was looking for, obviously," he wrote, "but it's certainly too soon to say if people will remember the power shortage over San Francisco's furious comeback attempt against Baltimore or if this will harm the city's future opportunities to host the Super Bowl."

Bjorn Hanson, dean of New York University's Center for Hospitality and Sports Management, said the episode shouldn't hurt the city's reputation as a big convention destination. "I think people view it for what it was: an unusual event with a near-record power draw," he said. "It was the equivalent of a circuit breaker flipping."



# GCDC offers free hoops clinic to players ages 6 to 18

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



The Garapan Community Development Center is offering free after-school youth basketball clinics for interested players ages 6 to 18 on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4pm to 6pm at the Garapan Basketball Court.

The clinics will run through Feb. 27 and aim to teach aspiring players basic rules and fundamentals of the game, build their skills, and provide basic physical education to players as well.

Players will take part in shooting, dribbling, passing, and defensive drills and learn about the various rules and violations of the game.

They will also learn proper warm-up techniques such as



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

A group of youth players take part in a practice drill, while coach Joe Diaz, back left, looks on during Monday's Garapan Community Development Center youth basketball clinic at the Garapan Basketball Court.

stretching and cardio exercises to help improve the players conditioning, strength, and speed.

GCDC's Joe Diaz, also head man of the Rollers Basketball Club, will be conducting the clinic with help from RBC's Rainer Deleon Guerrero and Freddie Titulumar as well as

support from Roger Valencia and other parents.

"The GCDC is putting on the clinics as a way to offer the inner-city youths a healthy, positive and constructive outlet in the afternoons after school," said Diaz during Monday's opening session, which was designated to

youth living in Garapan.

Diaz also extended his appreciation to Rep. Felicidad Ogu-moro (R-Saipan) for sponsoring the cause.

In addition to Garapan, youths from China Town, Sadog Tasi, Gualo Rai, San Jose, Oleai, Chalan Kiya, Chalan Laulau, and Navy Hill are also being included in the upcoming sessions.

Today's clinic is being offered to interested participants living in China Town and Sadog Tasi.

The Garapan and China Twon/Sadog Tasi sessions will continue through next week with Gualo Rai and Navy Hill sessions scheduled for the following Mondays, Feb. 18 and 25.

San Jose, Oleai, Chalan Kiya, and Chalan Laulau sessions are designated on two succeeding Wednesdays, Feb. 20 and 27.

Notably, though the sessions are technically designated by vil-

lage of residence, players will not be turned away if they show up.

About 20 players participated in Monday's opening session and

the GCDC is hoping for a larger turnout for future gatherings.

For more information, contact GCDC at 233-8978.

## NMIFA

From Page 28

the spring league.

The U6 age group has six teams and the respective squads drills will take place at Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, San Antonio, Dandan, Oleai, and Navy Hill. Eight teams will compete in the U8 division and they will play seven games each also at the above-mentioned school pitches. The U10 age group also has eight teams, while nine will participate in the U12 league.

For the competitive boys U15 league, five squads will battle for bragging rights, including defending spring champion MP United FC. Joining MPU on the list are Matansa, Paire, Shirley's, and Tan Holdings.

Matansa and Paire will kick off the action in the boys U15 with their afternoon match this Friday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. Then this Saturday, Shirley's will challenge MP United at 9am, also at the Oleai pitch. Tan Holdings drew a bye in Round 1 of the double round-robin league and will start their spring season campaign next Friday against MP United.

In the girls U15, matches will be played at the Hopwood Junior High School Field. Matansa and

Paire will open the hostilities in the girls U15 league as they collide at 2:30pm this Saturday, while Shirley's and MP United will play in the second match at 4pm. Tan Holdings also got a bye in Week 1 of the girls U15 and will play its first game of the season next Saturday against MP United at 2:30pm.

For the boys U18, games will be played both at the Hopwood and Oleai pitches. Tan Holdings will take on Paire this Saturday at 11am at the Oleai pitch, while MP United will have its first game next Saturday against Tan Holdings at Hopwood, also at 11am.

## Clinic set for Sunday

Meanwhile, a goalkeeper and field player clinic will be held this Sunday at the Oleai pitch.

NMIFA technical director and CNMI National Team goalie Johann Noetzel will team up with Japan Football Association's Akira Yamanaka and another Japanese coach in conducting the clinic from 10am to 12am.

The clinic is only for registered NMIFA players in the U12 division. Pre-registration is requested by Friday at 12pm at the NMIFA office, located at the third floor of the TSL Plaza.

For more information, send email to rlazaro@nmifa.com or call 235-0173.

## ALLEN

From Page 28

"I'm fitter and stronger than ever. The New Year always brings new opportunities, and hopefully 2013 is no different. My girlfriend Jacqui Slack and I are setting our sights high and have already made firm race plans for 2013. Once again we will be pushing our bodies to the limits and traveling to 14 different countries to race the XTERRA World Tour and keep the XTERRA Warriors spirit alive," the North Wollongong, New South Wales resident said.

"I feel very confident with my swimming, riding, and running thanks to my coach Guy Hemmerlin, who is training me very hard, to prepare me for the grueling challenges that everyone faces during the XTERRA races," he added.

Allen was first out of the water at Micro Beach in last year's XTERRA Saipan with his 22:00 in the 1.5-kilometer swim, was third overall in the 33K bike with his 1:25:33, and also first in the 12K run with his 48:25. The Australian pro entered the XTERRA finish line loop at the American Memorial Park just a few steps ahead of Marceau to deny the latter a

successful return to the Crown Jewel of XTERRA World Tour after missing the event for four straight years.

Allen and Slack will be arriving on Saipan on March 5 in time for the March 9 competition and three days after starting the XTERRA Asian Triple Crown in the Philippines.

"We are super excited with what 2013 holds. XTERRA is going to be bigger and better than ever before. With many new XTERRA races emerging including XTERRAs in our home countries of UK and Australia, we can't help but be involved and help give athletes the ultimate XTERRA experi-

ence. Jacqui and I are thrilled and excited to have the opportunity to race in the 2013 XTERRA Saipan Championship and visit friends we have made throughout our journey so far," said Allen, who thanked his girlfriend, family, and sponsors Giant Bikes, On Running, Rocket Science Sports, Craft, Ryders Eyewear, Schnell Carbon Wheels, Greepers, Eko, and Xosize for making his XTERRA trips possible.

Before seeing action in XTERRA Saipan, Allen and Slack have expressed their interest in making a presentation about triathlon to kids and an open forum for local triathletes.

## DOLPHINS

From Page 28

Yu was held to just 8 points in the second half, but still finished with a team high 15, while MHS managed to get every player on its roster to contribute come the final buzzer. Darag led the 12-man band with 18 points.

In the junior varsity game, MHS busted out four treys and shot out to a stout 18-8 lead in the opening period.

Two of the three-balls came from Ethan Manalili who led the charge with 10 points.

He took a seat in the second quarter, but Shane Deleon Guerrero-Diaz romped inside for 9 points to give the Jr. Dolphins an even bigger margin, 31-13, at mid-point.

Agape's Tao Yang managed 9 points on the other end for the Torchbearers through intermission, but was shut out in the second half.

MHS was held to just a point

in the entire third period, but continued to play strong defense and preserved its big lead and the team ran away in the final canto.

Deleon Guerrero-Diaz led the closing charge with 6 points and finished with a game-high 15, while Agape's Mark Noel Puno scrambled for a dozen in defeat.

## VARSITY

**MHS 88** – Darag 18, Dela Rosa 14, Aguilar 9, Dai 8, Mancao 8, Zapanta 8, Macahito 6, Ogumoro 6, Cristobal 4, Bai 2,

Santos 2, Suares 2.

**Eucon 50** – Yu 15, Wang 10, Ren 9, Zhang 5, Li 5, Zhou 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 24-9, 42-21, 57-35, 88-50.

## JUNIOR VARSITY

**MHS 46** – Deleon Guerrero 15, Manalili 10, Cayading 7, Ano 4, Yap 4, Gaspar 3, Hemley 2, De Guzman 2.

**ACS 31** – Puno 12, Lin 8, Yang 7, Li 4.

**Scoring by quarters:** 18-8, 31-13, 32-18, 46-31.

## BALL BUSTERS

From Page 28

Laniyo of MIA ruled the U25 men's doubles with Hannah Compos and Chenny Lizama of I Don't Know beating all comers in the U25 doubles.

Ball Busters beat out six other U13 squads and made it past Cookie Monsters, 15-8, The Others, 15-11, and Living Like Larry, 15-13, before succumbing to Living Like Larry in the first finals face off, 5-15.

The team, however, regrouped and knocked off its rival in the tiebreaker final, 16-14. Funky, Oh Dude, and the Young Guns completed the field.

Tu Madre topped nine other teams and earned a first round bye in pool play before ad-

vancing through the Sparkles 1, 17-15, the Zoners, 15-9, and Give & Go, 15-10, en route to the championship set where it downed Give & Go once again, 21-18, for the win.

ATH, Bang Dat, Hudbag Chones, Isaiah & The Girls, Team Fail, and You Got Served represented the other competing groups.

MIA toppled six other couples, earning a first round bye before tearing through Das It, 15-11, and Previet, 15-10, to clinch a twice-to-beat advantage in the finals, but only needed one set to knock off Previet in the end, 15-11. The Clippers, the Lambs, Mini Macs, and Zoolander made up the rest of the field.

IDK bested nine other pairs to claim top honors and also

benefited from a first round bye as they went on to defeat Beast Mode, 15-10, Sparkles 2, 15-3, and No Idea, 15-10, before ousting No Idea in one final set, 21-11. The Hats, the Fireballs, MFC, Oh My Gawd-Unicorns, Scorpio, and Spicy also took part in the division.

The tournament was organized by the Northern Marianas Volleyball Association.

In related news, NMIFA's For the Love of Volleyball Men & Women's Doubles Beach Volleyball Tournament tips off this Saturday beachside at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Onsite registration starts at 8:30am with games scheduled to commence at 9am.

It costs \$25 per player, \$20 for NMIFA members, to participate and players must be at least

16 to compete.

Organizers request for interested participants to bring their own partner.

It will be a double-elimination event that follows standard Federation De Volleyball (FIVB) rules.

Other rules include that serves must alternate during games and game point for early matches are set at 15 with a cap of 21, with semifinals and finals matches increased to a game point of 21 with a cap of 25.

Depending on the turnout, organizers reserve the right to adjust the scoring formats to ensure a timely finish.

For more information, contact tournament coordinator Robin Sapong at reugenio@hyattsaipan.com or email nmi-volleyball@gmail.com.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	31	15	.674	—
Brooklyn	28	19	.596	3 1/2
Boston	24	23	.511	7 1/2
Philadelphia	21	26	.447	10 1/2
Toronto	17	31	.354	15

##### Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	31	14	.689	—
Atlanta	26	20	.565	5 1/2
Orlando	14	34	.292	18 1/2
Washington	12	35	.255	20
Charlotte	11	36	.234	21

##### Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	29	19	.604	—
Chicago	29	19	.604	—
Milwaukee	25	21	.543	3
Detroit	18	31	.367	11 1/2
Cleveland	14	34	.292	15

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE

##### Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	38	11	.776	—
Memphis	30	16	.652	6 1/2
Houston	26	23	.531	12
Dallas	20	28	.417	17 1/2
New Orleans	15	33	.313	22 1/2

##### Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	36	12	.750	—
Denver	30	18	.625	6
Utah	27	22	.551	9 1/2
Portland	25	23	.521	11
Minnesota	18	27	.400	16 1/2

##### Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	34	16	.680	—
Golden State	30	17	.638	2 1/2
L.A. Lakers	22	26	.458	11
Sacramento	17	33	.340	17
Phoenix	16	32	.333	17

### NBA LEADERS

#### Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	47	448	405	1392	29.6
Anthony, NYK	38	374	231	1082	28.5
Bryant, LAL	48	471	296	1329	27.7
James, MIA	44	451	210	1171	26.6

Harden, HOU	48	367	415	1237	25.8
Irving, CLE	37	324	166	887	24.0
Westbrook, OKC	47	373	254	1062	22.6
Curry, GOL	43	316	138	909	21.1
Wade, MIA	40	314	183	826	20.7
Aldridge, POR	45	372	177	922	20.5
Parker, SAN	47	378	168	945	20.1
Holiday, PHL	42	331	109	816	19.4
Lee, GOL	46	369	154	892	19.4
Jennings, MIL	46	310	144	862	18.7
Pierce, BOS	47	294	205	876	18.6
Ellis, MIL	46	321	171	854	18.6
Griffin, LAC	49	362	181	908	18.5
Lillard, POR	47	307	142	864	18.4
Mayo, DAL	47	300	149	845	18.0
Walker, CHA	46	304	157	826	18.0

#### FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Chandler, NYK	198	291	.680
Jordan, LAC	185	307	.603
Splitter, SAN	196	327	.599
Howard, LAL	255	442	.577
McGee, DEN	187	333	.562
Hickson, POR	241	432	.558
Ibaka, OKC	261	468	.558
Lopez, NOR	230	413	.557
Fariel, DEN	233	422	.552
James, MIA	451	822	.549

#### Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Howard, LAL	43	146	364	510	11.9
Randolph, MEM	44	192	324	516	11.7
Asik, HOU	49	158	400	558	11.4
Noah, CHI	44	172	326	498	11.3
Vucevic, ORL	47	162	368	530	11.3
Lee, GOL	46	132	378	510	11.1
Chandler, NYK	45	201	296	497	11.0
Hickson, POR	46	166	330	496	10.8
Cousins, SAC	44	147	298	445	10.1
Horford, ATL	43	111	311	422	9.8

#### Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Rondo, BOS	38	420	11.1
Paul, LAC	39	378	9.7
Vasquez, NOR	48	448	9.3
Holiday, PHL	42	372	8.9
Westbrook, OKC	47	388	8.3
Williams, Bro	46	356	7.7
Parker, SAN	47	356	7.6
Calderon, TOR	45	333	7.4
Nelson, ORL	37	268	7.2
James, MIA	44	307	7.0

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Guam Sidekicks vs CNMI U14 Team

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Members of the CNMI U14 Training Team listen to the instructions of a Chelsea FC Soccer School (Hong Kong) coach before their exhibition game against the Guam Sidekicks at the Koblerville Elementary School Field late last month.



The CNMI U14 Training Team members jog around the pitch to warm up for the match.



Guam Sidekicks players do stretching drills, while coach Roy Abril looks on.



A Guam Sidekicks striker dribbles and tries to anchor an offensive attack.



A CNMI U14 Training Team defender blocks a shot from a Guam Sidekicks player.



A Guam Sidekicks players falls to the ground after colliding with a CNMI U14 Training Team striker.



Game officials check on the warm-up drills of the CNMI U14 Training Team.



The CNMI U14 Training Team goalie catches the ball.



The CNMI U14 Training Team's Anthony Fruit is guarded by two Guam Sidekicks players.



Referee Ruselle Zapanta talks to the captains of the opposing squad before the start of the match.

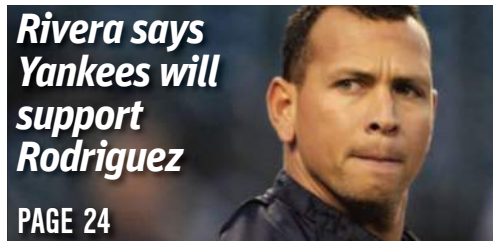




**Pacers tie up Bulls in Central with 111-101 win**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports



**Rivera says Yankees will support Rodriguez**

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28 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Allen expects tough title defense in XTERRA

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Australian pro triathlete Ben Allen admits facing a tough battle when he defends his men's title in next month's XTERRA Saipan Championship.

"The competition at this year's XTERRA Saipan will be fierce. Former Triathlon ITU World champion Olivier Marceau is returning, along with 2011 XTERRA Saipan champion Sam Gardner and not to forget a new addition at this year's race, Dan Hugo, who has numerous podium finishes in the XTERRA World Tour," Allen said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

The Australian and New Zealand XTERRA champion won last year's XTERRA Saipan after setting a new course re-

cord of 2:31:05, just 39 seconds ahead of Marceau. Allen went on to sweep the XTERRA Asian Triple Crown, as he also topped XTERRA Philippines and XTERRA Guam.

To prepare for this title defense and hopefully deny Marceau and Gardner's claim to their lost glory, and foil the newcomers' bid for debut wins, Allen along with his girlfriend and fellow pro Jacqui Slack of United Kingdom has started training for the XTERRA Tour since late last year.



See ALLEN on Page 26

Australian pro Ben Allen and United Kingdom's Jacqui Slack pose for a photo in one of the XTERRA races they joined last year. The couple will be here next month to join the 2013 XTERRA Saipan Championship set for March 9.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## Dolphins rout Blazers; junior team also wins

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER



Marianas High School's varsity and junior Dolphins each bagged wins in the continuation of the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization 2013 boys basketball season last Monday at the MHS Gymnasium.

The varsity Dolphins rolled over the Eucon International School Blazers, 88-50, while the Jr. Dolphins defeated the Agape Christian School Torchbearers, 46-31.

MHS' varsity team capped its fourth win in five games, while the junior crew extended its flawless streak to five in a row.

The Blazers have managed just one win in five tries, while Agape fell to a 2-3 win-loss slate.

The undefeated Saipan Southern High School Manta Rays (4-0) hold the top spot in the varsity standings in front of MHS, Kagman High School Ayuyus (2-2), Eucon, and the Mount Carmel School Knights (0-4).

The Jr. Dolphins lead KHS



Marianas High School Dolphins' Michael Mancao gets hacked by Eucon International School Blazers' Peter Zhou on this reverse layup during their MISO varsity boys basketball matchup last Monday at the MHS Gymnasium.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

(2-2), SSSH (2-2), Agape, and Saipan International School's Jr. Geckos (0-4) in junior division play, while the freshmen class standings list MHS (2-0) in front of SSSH (1-1) and KHS (1-2).

The season continues today at the MHS Gym at 4pm with KHS taking on SIS in a junior pairing followed by the 5:30pm varsity match between the Ayuyus and the Knights.

In Monday's varsity game, MHS' John Darag tallied 11 points in the first quarter, including two long-range strikes, to help give the Dolphins a commanding 24-9 lead in the first period.

The team went on to double up Eucon, 42-21, at the half as the latter's mainstay Allen Yu was held to just a pair of free throws in the second quarter.

Darag hit once again from behind the arc late in the period that was complemented by 4 points apiece by Lixing Dai and Michael Mancao.

Both teams then merely traded baskets in the third quarter as the count shifted to 57-35, heading into the last frame and the Dolphins went on to coast to an easy win.

See DOLPHINS on Page 26

## Ball Busters, Tu Madre, MIA, IDK win Junior grass v'ball tourney

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER

Ball Busters, Tu Madre, MIA, and I Don't Know topped their respective age divisions in last Saturday's Junior/Kids Coed Grass Volleyball tournament held on the Navy Hill Athletics Field.

Ball Busters, made up of Sally Hwang, Kentaro Kitagawa, Masaki Kitami, and Luther Lizama, won the U13 mixed category, while Frankie Camacho, Bryan Daria, Satcy Escueta, and Melanie Nakamura of Tu Madre took the U18 mixed division.

J.R. Gechig and Wilton See BALL BUSTERS on Page 26



Hannah Compos pops up a set to Chenny Lizama during NMIFA's Junior and Kids Grass Volleyball Tournament last Saturday on the Navy Hill Athletics Field.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## NMIFA kicks off spring league this weekend

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Northern Mariana Islands Football Association will kick off the 2013 season with the staging of the 2013 NMIFA Spring Youth League this weekend at various pitches on Saipan.

The spring league will feature competitions in six age groups—the co-ed U6, U8, U10, and U12, and the girls and boys U15, and boys U18. NMIFA's five regular clubs—MP United FC, Shirley's FC, Tan Holdings FC, Matansa FC, and Paire FC—and a new group will be fielding teams in

See NMIFA on Page 26



Matansa FC, left, and Paire players collide during their U18 game in last year's NMIFA spring league at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO